

# Agenda

### **Licensing Sub-Committee**

Wednesday, 30 August 2023 at 10.00 am Council Chamber - Town Hall

Membership (Quorum - 3)

Cllrs Mrs N Cuthbert, Gorton and Gelderbloem

**Substitute Members** 

Cllrs

Agenda

Item Item Wards(s) Page No Affected

### Live broadcast

Live stream to start at 7pm and available for repeat viewing.

### **Contents**

- 1. Appointment of Chair
- 2. Administrative Function

Members are respectfully reminded that, in determining the matters listed below, they are exercising an administrative function with the civil burden of proof, i.e. 'on the balance of probabilities'. The matter will be determined on the facts before the Sub-Committee and the rules of natural justice will apply.

3. BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR 40 HIGH ST, BRENTWOOD CM14 E 4AJ Application to Review a Premises Licence - Licensing Act 2003

Brentwoo 5 - 154 d South



Jonathan Stephenson Chief Executive

Town Hall Brentwood, Essex 22.08.2023

#### Information for Members

#### Substitutes

The names of substitutes shall be announced at the start of the meeting by the Chair and the substitution shall cease at the end of the meeting.

Where substitution is permitted, substitutes for quasi judicial/regulatory committees must be drawn from Members who have received training in quasi-judicial/regulatory decision making. If a casual vacancy occurs on a quasi judicial/regulatory committee it will not be filled until the nominated member has been trained.

### Rights to Attend and Speak

Any Members may attend any Committee to which these procedure rules apply.

A Member who is not a member of the Committee may speak at the meeting. The Member may speak at the Chair's discretion, it being the expectation that a Member will be allowed to speak on a ward matter.

Members requiring further information, or with specific questions, are asked to raise these with the appropriate officer at least two working days before the meeting.

### Point of Order/ Personal explanation/ Point of Information

#### Point of Order

A member may raise a point of order at any time. The Mayor will hear them immediately. A point of order may only relate to an alleged breach of these Procedure Rules or the law. The Member must indicate the rule or law and the way in which they consider it has been broken. The ruling of the Mayor on the point of order will be final.

#### **Personal Explanation**

A member may make a personal explanation at any time. A personal explanation must relate to some material part of an earlier speech by the member which may appear to have been misunderstood in the present debate, or outside of the meeting. The ruling of the Mayor on the admissibility of a personal explanation will be final.

### Point of Information or clarification

A point of information or clarification must relate to the matter being debated. If a Member wishes to raise a point of information, he/she must first seek the permission of the Mayor. The Member must specify the nature of the information he/she wishes to provide and its importance to the current debate, If the Mayor gives his/her permission, the Member will give the additional information succinctly. Points of Information or clarification should be used in exceptional circumstances and should not be used to interrupt other speakers or to make a further speech when he/she has already spoken during the debate. The ruling of the Mayor on the admissibility of a point of information or clarification will be final.

#### Information for Members of the Public

### (i) Access to Information and Meetings

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If you wish to record the proceedings of a meeting and have any special requirements or are intending to bring in large equipment then please contact the Communications Team before the meeting.

The use of flash photography or additional lighting may be allowed provided it has been discussed prior to the meeting and agreement reached to ensure that it will not disrupt proceedings.

The Chair of the meeting may terminate or suspend filming, photography, recording and use of social media if any of

these activities, in their opinion, are disrupting proceedings at the meeting.



### Private Session

Occasionally meetings will need to discuss some of its business in private. This can only happen on a limited range of issues, which are set by law. When a Committee does so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.



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### **O** Evacuation Procedures

Evacuate the building using the nearest available exit and congregate at the assembly point in the Car Park.

### Agenda Item 3



### **COMMITTEE TITLE** Licensing and Appeals Committee

DATE 30 August 2023

| REPORT TITLE: | BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR 40 HIGH ST, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ Application to Review a Premises Licence – Licensing Act 2003 |
|---------------|---|
| REPORT OF:    | Paul Adams – Licensing Manager  |

### 1. REPORT SUMMARY

1.1 An application has been received from Mr Simon Barnes, Essex Police Licensing Officer on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police for a review of the premises licence in respect of BLOC 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ following a large-scale disturbance involving large numbers of school aged children that took place within the venue and then spilling outside on the street on Friday 16 June 2023. During the consultation period, representations were also received from Brentwood Council's Environmental Health and Licensing departments as Responsible Authorities and two Other Persons.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee considers the application for review and any relevant representations and consider what steps are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in line with the options open to the committee under the Licensing Act 2003.
- 2.2 The following options are available to the Licensing Sub-Committee:
  - i. Do nothing with the licence;
  - ii. Modify the conditions of the premises licence. This can include adding new conditions or alterations to existing conditions e.g. reducing the hours of operation or removing a licensable activity from the licence;
  - iii. The removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence.
  - iv. To suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
  - v. To revoke the licence

### 3. The Application

- 3.1 On 6 July 2023, an application for a review of the premises licence was received from Mr Simon Barnes, Essex Police Licensing Officer on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police in relation to BLOC 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ. The premises licence holder is AA Trading Ltd., with the sole director being Mr Ahmet Melin, and the Designated premises Supervisor is Ms Leonora Dunne.
- 3.2 The application relates to a large-scale disturbance involving large numbers of school children that took place within the venue and outside on the street on Friday 16 June 2023. As a result, it is the police contention that all four licensing objectives were undermined. A full copy of the application and supporting materials is attached at **Appendix 1**. As part of the review application, Essex Police are asking the licensing authority to take substantial steps to protect the public going forward and to consider the need for deterrence and to consider what is necessary to promote the objective of crime prevention (in particular), and the needs of the wider community, and not be limited to guidance and remedial action and the needs of the licence-holder. This may involve revocation or suspension of the remises licence.
- 3.3 A copy of the existing premises licence together with a set of OS Street Maps and images to better identify the location are attached at **Appendix 2.**
- 3.4 During the consultation period, two representations were received from Responsible Authorities. Environmental Health Manager, Mr David Carter, and Licensing Officer, Mr Dave Leonard.
- 3.4 Mr Carter's representation is attached as **Appendix 3** and Mr Leonard's representation is attached as **Appendix 4**.
- 3.6 A further representation was received from Other Person's, Dr Sasha Millwood and Mrs Greta Millwood, local residents. A copy of their representation is attached at **Appendix 5.**

### SUPPORT ING INFORMATION

### 4.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 These are options available to the Sub-Committee under the Licensing Act 2003
- 4.2 The decision made by the committee will not take effect until the end of the period given for appealing against the decision or, if the decision is appealed against, until the appeal is disposed of.

- 4.3 In determining this application for a review of the premises licence, the Sub-Committee should have regard to the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State under s182 of the Licensing Act 2003.
- 4.4 The Sub-Committee are advised that the hearing is a statutory exercise of power delegated by local residents to consider what the public interest requires. The licensing authority, via the Sub-Committee, has a duty, in accordance with the rule of law, to behave fairly in the decision-making procedure. Representations from all parties both written and verbal will form part of matters that are to be considered. Findings on issues of fact should be on the balance of probability.
- 4.5 The Sub-Committee are advised that the final decision should be based on the individual merits of the application & findings of fact made at the hearing.
- 4.6 The application must be determined within 5 working days of the conclusion of the hearing, in accordance with paragraph 26 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

#### 5.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 5.1 Applications for reviews of premises licences can be brought by responsible authorities or any other persons under section 51 Licensing Act 2003 one or more of the four licensing objectives.
- 5.2 The four licensing objectives are:
  - The prevention of crime and disorder
  - Public safety
  - The prevention of public nuisance
  - The protection of children from harm

Any decision could be subject to an appeal to a Magistrates Court, which can be instigated by either the applicant, the licence holder or a person who made the representation.

Each application must be considered on its own merits and in accordance with the Licensing Authority's statement of licensing policy.

Conditions attached to licences must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises concerned and be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case.

#### 7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Conditions may be attached to the grant of any licence, the hours or activities may be amended as appropriate, or in some cases the application may be refused. However, any action taken must be appropriate and relevant to promotion of the licensing objectives having considered the full details of the application and representations including testimony from any interested party present at the hearing.
- 7.2 The justification behind any decision to grant or refuse a licence application or the attachment of conditions, or variation of terms applied for must be recorded and given to the applicant and any person that has made representation.
- 7.3 There is a right of appeal to Magistrates Court by any person or party aggrieved by any decision made by the Sub-Committee.

Name & Title: Claire Mayhew, Joint Acting Director -

**People & Governance & Monitoring Officer** 

Tel & Email 01277 312500 / claire.mayhew@brentwood.gov.uk

#### 8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The application has been consulted on in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 and any responses have been included in this report.
- 8.2 Officers from the Licensing Authority have made checks on the display of public notices and are satisfied that these requirements have been met.
- 8.3 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on local authorities to do all that it can to prevent
  - (a) crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local community), and;
  - (b) the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its areas.

In considering this application in relation to these duties the authority should have due regard to Section 61(1) (b) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Brentwood Borough Council's guidelines on previous convictions or cautions and any submissions made by the applicant.

### 9.0 Statement of Licensing Policy

- 9.1 The following sections may be relevant to this review:
  - 19.1 Brentwood Borough Council, through its Corporate Strategy is committed to further improving the quality of life for the people of the Borough of Brentwood by continuing to reduce crime and the fear of crime.
  - 19.2 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 introduced a wide range of measures for preventing crime and disorder and imposed a duty on Brentwood Borough Council, Essex Police, Essex County Council and others to consider crime and disorder reduction in the exercise of all their duties. The Licensing Act 2003, as amended, reinforces this duty for local authorities.
  - 19.3 The promotion of the licensing objective, to prevent crime and disorder, places a responsibility on licence holders to become key partners in achieving this objective. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate in their operating schedule that suitable and sufficient measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained to reduce or prevent crime and disorder on and in the vicinity of their premises, relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and events.

### 10.0 Relevant Sections of the Secretary of State's Guidance

10.1 Section 11 of the guidance is relevant to reviews.

REPORT AUTHOR: Name: Paul Adams

Title: Licensing Manager

Phone: 01277 312500

Email: paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk

### **APPENDICES**

- Appendix A Appendix 1: Application for review & supporting information
- Appendix B Appendix 2: Copy of premises licence, OS Street Plans & Images
- Appendix C Appendix 3: Representations Mr David Carter Environmental Health
- Appendix D Appendix 4: Representation Mr Dave Leonard –Licensing Officer
- Appendix E Appendix 5: Representation from Other Persons
   Dr Sasha Millwood & Mrs Greta Millwood



### BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AI

# APPENDIX 1

### Application to Review the Premises Licence

Received 6 July 2023

Mr Simon Barnes, Essex Police Licensing Officer on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police

plus

Supplementary Bundle

Received 25 July 2023

Addendum

Received 3 August 2023

### Application for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003

### PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary. You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

| I Simon Barnes, Essex Police Licensing (Insert name of applicant) apply for the review of a premises licenspremises described in Part 1 below (deleter) | ce under section 51 of the Licens | 37                |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Part 1 – Premises or club premises deta   | ils                               |                   |
| Postal address of premises or, if none, or BLOC 40 FIRST FLOOR 40 HIGH STREET   | rdnance survey map reference o    | or description    |
| Post town Brentwood   | Post code (if known) C            | M14 4AJ           |
| A A Trading Limited  Number of premises licence or club pre PRM_0545  | mises certificate (if known)      |                   |
| Part 2 - Applicant details  |                                   |                   |
| I am  |                                   | Please tick ✓ yes |
| 1) an individual, body or business which i authority (please read guidance note 1, and or (B) below)  |                                   |                   |
| 2) a responsible authority (please complete   | e (C) below)                      |                   |
| 3) a member of the club to which this application (please complete (A) below)   | lication relates                  |                   |

| Mr Mrs  | Miss            |      | Ms  |          | Other title<br>(for example, Rev) |
|---|-----------------|------|-----|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Surname   |                 |      | Fir | st names | (10. 0                            |
|   |                 |      |     |          |                                   |
| I am 18 years old o   | or over         |      |     |          | Please tick ✓ yes                 |
| Current postal<br>address if<br>different from<br>premises<br>address |                 |      |     |          |                                   |
| Post town   |                 |      | Pos | t Code   |                                   |
| Daytime contact to  | elephone number |      |     |          |                                   |
| E-mail address<br>(optional)  |                 |      |     |          |                                   |
| (B) DETAILS OF  | OTHER APPLI     | CANT |     |          |                                   |
| (b) DETAILS OF  |                 |      |     |          |                                   |
| Name and address  |                 |      |     |          |                                   |
|   |                 |      |     |          |                                   |
|   |                 |      |     |          |                                   |
|   |                 |      |     |          |                                   |

### (C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address

The Chief Officer of Police for the county of Essex and the non-metropolitan districts of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock

ESSEX POLICE LICENSING TEAM BRAINTREE POLICE STATION BYTH'S MEADOW BRAINTREE CM7 3DJ

Telephone number (if any) 01245 452035

E-mail address (optional)

Licensing.applications@essex.police.uk

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)

|   | Please tick one or more boxes ✓ |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1) the prevention of crime and disorder |                                 |
| 2) public safety                        | $\boxtimes$                     |
| 3) the prevention of public nuisance    |                                 |
| 4) the protection of children from harm |                                 |

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 2)

The premises has a long history of operating in circumstances whereby it has to the attention of both the police and the licensing authority, including in June 2021 when a summary review of the premises was made by Essex Police following a double stabbing at the premises.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June the premises hosted what was described as a 14<sup>th</sup> birthday party.

Footage shared on social media shows a large-scale disturbance within the premises with youths punching and striking each other, bottles of spirits being used as weapons and thrown at party attendees. There appeared to be only a limited attempt by premises staff to stop this disorderly behaviour.

Council CCTV footage then shows the disturbance spreading outside the premises and into the road with upwards of 60 persons estimated to be involved. This necessitated the deployment of in excess of 10 police units including specialist resources being called to assist.

The circumstances are such that the following licensing objectives were undermined:

- The prevention of crime and disorder.
- Public safety.
- The prevention of public nuisance.
- The protection of children from harm.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 3)

The below sets out the basic grounds as to why this review has been submitted. They will be amplified upon during the statutory consultation period.

The premises has for some time been associated with crime and disorder, including in 2021 when 2 persons were stabbed, and Essex Police initiated a summary review of the premises licence.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2023 a large-scale disturbance involving large numbers of school children took place within the venue and outside on the street. Attending officers found many of these were intoxicated, presumably having consumed alcohol before attending but still allowed entry. During the incident full bottles of spirits etc. were snatched from the bar area and used as weapons.

Evidence suggests that SIA door staff were not on duty (cursory searches of bags was witnessed by council CCTV but the individuals doing so were not visibly wearing SIA licences). Searching and controlling entry are licensable activities to be undertaken by SIA licensed staff only; it is an offence to undertake such activity whilst unlicensed or failing to display an SIA licence.

Social media footage appears to show the owner of the business taking no steps to intervene and apparently allowing disorderly behaviour on the premises (an offence under section 140 of the Licensing Act 2003).

A large amount of police resources, including many from outside Brentwood, needed to be deployed to attend and take control of the situation. The youths endangered themselves and other members of the public when they spilled into the roadway.

Since the incident the police licensing team have attempted many times to speak with the premises owner, but phone calls, letters and e-mails have not been responded to. Requests to attend and view CCTV footage (a condition of the premises licence) have not been responded to.

Further enquiries are being made into the incident and the culpability of premises management and whilst Essex Police would generally take a stepped approach to enforcement (and seek to work with premises) it remains the case that this premises has a history of non-compliance, the most recent incident was serious and demonstrated an apparent lack of management control – and premises management has so far failed to respond to communication from the police.

All 4 of the licensing objectives were undermined during this incident; youths committed assaults (including the use of improvised weapons), persons inside and outside were liable to injury, significant nuisance to road and footway users was occasioned and the attendees (children) were not protected.

Paragraph 1.8 of the Statutory Guidance issued by the Home Secretary under section 182 of the Act specifically states, "The police remain key enforcers of licensing law. This Guidance does not bind police officers who, within the parameters of their force orders and the law remain operationally independent.

At the subsequent hearing Essex Police will be asking the licensing authority to take substantial steps to protect the public going forward and to consider the need for deterrence and to consider what is necessary to promote the objective of crime prevention (in particular), and the needs of the wider community, and not be limited to guidance and remedial action and to the needs of the licence-holders<sup>1</sup>.

This may involve revocation or suspension of the premises licence.

<sup>1</sup>The case of Bassetlaw District Council, R (on the application of) v Workshop Magistrates Court [2008] EWHC 3530 (Admin)

Essex Police will produce further documentary or other information in support of this application ahead of the hearing and would ask the authority to take this into account as it may do under Regulation 18 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

In accordance with paragraph 11.9 of the Statutory Guidance Essex Police may amplify its representation at the subsequent hearing.

Please tick ✓ yes

Have you made an application for review relating to the premises before

 $\boxtimes$ 

If yes please state the date of that application

| Day | y | M | ont | h | Y | ear |   |
|-----|---|---|-----|---|---|-----|---|
| 0   | 3 | 0 | 6   | 2 | 0 | 2   | 1 |

| If you have made representation and when you made them | ons before relating to the premises please state what they were |
|--|---|
|  |   |
|  |   |
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|  |   |
|  |   |
|  |   |
|  |   |
|  |   |
|  |   |

yes

I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate

 I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected

IT IS AN OFFENCE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

| Signature | SJBarnes   |
|-----------|------------|
|           | SJ Datties |
| Date      | 06/07/2023 |
|           |            |

Capacity

Licensing Officer with the delegated power of the Chief Officer of Police for Essex (the Chief Constable of Essex Police) to submit review applications......

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6) ESSEX POLICE COUNTY LICENSING HUB

BRAINTREE POLICE STATION

BLYTHS MEADOW

| Post town                              | Post Code |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| BRAINTREE                              | CM7 3DJ   |  |
| Telephone number (if any) 01245 452035 |           |  |

If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional) licensing.applications@essex.pnn.police.uk

#### **Notes for Guidance**

- 1. A responsible authority includes the local police, fire and rescue authority and other statutory bodies which exercise specific functions in the local area.
- 2. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
- 3. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
- 4. The application form must be signed.
- 5. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
- 6. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.

### **Debra Wright**

From:

Licensing Epping and Brentwood < licensing.epping.and.brentwood@essex.police.uk>

Sent:

25 July 2023 14:46

To:

Licensing

Subject:

Review - Bloc 40 - Police Supplementary Bundle

**Attachments:** 

Bloc 40 - Police Supplementary Bundle.pdf

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

**FAO: Licensing Authority** 

Please find attached the police bundle for the ongoing review into a premises known as Bloc 40.

Given the nature of the incident including the presence of children, it is Essex Police's position that the hearing should be heard in the absence of the press and public, at a minimum the display of the records should be held in private to avoid the unnecessary release of information related to underage individuals.

#### **Kind Regards**



### Simon Barnes (82011)

Licensing Officer - Brentwood & Thurrock

**101** (Ext: 42082011)

6 07773 935612

icensing.epping.and.brentwood@essex.police.uk

licensing.thurrock@essex.police.uk

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### **Premises Licence Review**

### Bloc 40 40 High Street, Brentwood

Supplementary documentary information in support of review.

POLICE BUNDLE

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| BLOC40/VR4 – Premises Bar CCTV                           |         |

POLICE BUNDLE Page 2 of 11 POLICE BUNDLE

### 1.0 Background Details

- 1.1 Bloc 40 is a licensed premises situated at 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ. The Premises Licence Holder (PLH) is A A Trading Limited and holds a licence number of PRM\_0545, the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) at the time of the incident was Leonora Dunne and has been since 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021
- 1.2 The premises has previously been reviewed on two separate occasions, first in June 2016 due to the licence being not in keeping with the business model and in June 2021 as a summary review triggered by Essex Police after a double stabbing on the premises
- 1.3 The premises has been in the control of A A Trading Limited since April 2015. The company at the time had two directors with only one still with the company with the name Ahmet MELIN.
- 1.4 An application to transfer the licence into the company's control was received by Essex Police on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015. At this time the premises was a snooker club that had been operating at the site since before the Licensing Act 2003 came into force.
- 1.5 Essex Police have received numerous reports in the last 2-3 years, a selection of these reports where it has been possible to link these to the premises alongside intelligence reports of interest have been included at Appendix A
- 1.6 The current premises is a night club operating on a single floor located up a flight of stairs leading off the high street. The club is made up of one large room and a terrace area with a single bar set up near to the terrace entrance.
- 1.7 In recent times the premises predominately operates on a private event and bottomless brunch events structure with only occasional openings for evenings to the wider public.

### 2.0 Outline of circumstances leading to the Review application.

- 2.1 At 21:11 on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023, Essex Police received a call regarding a fight at Bloc 40. The caller indicated that the entire club was fighting and throwing bottles and going behind the bar and smashing bottles.
- 2.2 Call handler noted that the caller was extremely rude and was not answering questions from the call handler regarding numbers involved just say "it's the whole club".
- 2.3 Officers have attended the High Street at 21:16 estimating around 100 youths in groups in and around Bloc 40 with a call out for all available units to attend, a total of 11 units were deployed to this incident.
- 2.4 Officers have spoken to a person who identified herself as staff at Bloc 40 and it was confirmed that the incident came from a 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. During the event two groups of boys have started a fight with some climbing over the bar, picking up bottles to use as weapons.
- 2.5 The member of staff noted that she had searched every person who entered the premises for bottles, and none entered the premises, but she did admit that some who entered may have already been intoxicated.
- With the assistance of two local teachers, officers were able to disperse the majority of the youths by 21:51 with the remaining youths leaving the High Street soon after.
- 2.7 A review of the Council CCTV shows that the event started at 18:00 with a female standing guard at the entry of the premises who appeared to be searching bags and pockets. It is seen that at times several individuals are not searched either being waved through or some sneaking around the barriers and bypassing security.
- 2.8 At no time was the female undertaking searches seen to be wearing a SIA badge. The searching of individuals prior to entering a licensed premises is a regulated activity under Private Security Industry Act 2001 and it is a requirement to display their registration ID card whilst undertaking regulated activity. During discussions with officers no ID card is seen round her arm or on display according to the officer's BWV.
- 2.9 Failing to display a SIA registered ID whilst undertaking frontline duties in the form of a door supervisor undertaking regulated activities, the protection of property by searching individuals prior to entry, is an offence under section 9 of Private Security Industry Act 2001. Undertaking these activities whilst not registered with the Security Industry Authority is also an offence under section 3 of the same act.

- 2.10 Council CCTV shows that at 21:11 customers begin leaving the premises, the large group of youths with some running from the area move into the road creating a road block to traffic. A few moments later a male is seen emptying a bottle and after rounding past the main group has attempted to use this bottle to strike another male. The group begins to fight the bottle user initially and then turn on each other with the male attempting to grab the bottle being pushed to the ground and kicked by multiple others. A copy of this recording is exhibited as BLOC40/VR1
- 2.11 Whilst officers were attempting to restore order one male was spoken to with an apparent eye injury, the male stated that he had been hit by another male but was unwilling to identify the suspect nor give their details as a victim.
- 2.12 Essex Police have received two recordings taken by members of the public, one of these videos contains a person level imagery of the fight highlighted in the previous paragraph and is exhibited as BLOC40/VR2.
- 2.13 The second video shows the scene inside the premises, this shows a fight occurring next to the bar with multiple youths watching and some involved. At least one youth is seen jumping over the bar with those fighting attempting to grab bottles that were on display behind the bar. It is observed that Mr MELIN is seen initially walking away from what appears to be a full blown fight before returning trying to block access to the bar area and take bottles off individuals. At no other time does it appear any security or adult attempts to become involved. This recording is exhibited as BLOC40/VR3.
- 2.14 Essex Police's licensing team began an investigation into the events of the 16<sup>th</sup> June including reviewing BWV from attending officers and reviewing the social media recordings passed to Essex Police.
- 2.15 On 21st June, Essex Police Licensing Officer Simon Barnes sent a request to the PLH for a meeting to discuss the incident and to take copies of the CCTV within the premises and the records of any SIA door supervisors on site, this request was made via email to the registered email address of the PLH, with a follow up voicemail and letters sent the next day, one to the PLH address by post alongside a second copy hand delivered onto the premises. As of the 6th July no response to any of these communications attempts were received.
- 2.16 Due to the lack of any attempt by the premises to contact the Essex Police Licensing team and given issues previously at the premises, it was felt that no other option was available but to trigger a review of the Premises Licence under all four licensing objectives. This was applied for on 6<sup>th</sup> July.
- 2.17 Essex Police licensing received communication from the office of Mr David Dadds on 10<sup>th</sup> July indicating that they were now acting on behalf of the PLH, in this communication a request for a meeting was outlined and Essex Police agreed to a meeting for 14<sup>th</sup> July.

- 2.18 During the meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> July a request was re-submitted for access to the CCTV and SIA records for the evening in question. Two CCTV clips were received by Essex Police but at the time of writing the door staff records have yet to be given to police.
- 2.19 The first feed was of outside of the premises which appears to show no further information not available in the council CCTV. The second feed is of the bar area which shows the build up to the fight which includes the PLH speaking to those who would later fight, the fight starting with multiple persons becoming involved with some being forced to the ground including the PLH. There was one member of bar staff behind the bar who moves further up the bar when the fight begins.
- 2.20 During the fight the PLH moves to a defensive position in the bar hatch area and makes no further attempts to break up the fight and only becomes involved when the fight approaches the bar area or when bottles are grabbed. At one point a large bottle is seen being used as a club before the PLH is able to remove this from the male. A copy of this recording is supplied as BLOC40/VR4.
- 2.21 At no time during the length of the video are any security seen or any other adult beyond the PLH and bar worker, of which only one attempts to stop the fight but stops once it has become a melee.
- 2.22 On 15<sup>th</sup> July Essex Police were called to concerns regarding an underage party being held at the premises and multiple youths appearing to be drunk. Officers have attended and spoken briefly with the PLH before doing a patrol of the club to confirm compliance. It was observed that, on this occasion, no bottles have been left on display and the number of youths in the premises appeared less than on the 16<sup>th</sup> June.
- 2.23 It is noted that there was a security presence with at least 4 security personnel; 3 at the door and one in the bar area. This is only what was seen and it is possible there were further security present on this occasion. It was also noted that none of the security on the door appeared to be displaying their SIA licences as required.
- 2.24 On the 18<sup>th</sup> July Essex Police received from Royal Mail the letter sent to the address listed on the licence as the PLH's address. This has been returned to the licensing team marked as returned to sender with the reasons given being "not at this address". This would give indication that the licence holder has not kept their licence updated, giving further consideration to the poor management of this licence.

#### 3.0 Reasons for Review

- 3.1 The incident in question has involved a premises that has been raised as a concern previously with the last major incident being a stabbing on the premises which resulted in a summary review being initiated in June 2021.
- 3.2 During this incident concerns were raised regarding how security was managed at the premises and the general compliance with conditions. Additional conditions were agreed and imposed during the subsequent hearing.
- 3.3 This incident has once again brought into question the premises' ability to manage security at events held at the premises and compliance with the conditions of the licence.
- 3.4 The premises made no efforts to communicate in anyway with Essex Police licensing while the incident on 16<sup>th</sup> June was being investigated, which has severely hampered a full and proper investigation into the incident prior to applying for a review.
- 3.5 This lack of cooperation gives rise to a serious consideration regarding the confidence Essex Police can have that conditions have been followed and that the event was well managed. The event and subsequent incident didn't just impact the premises but also the high street with members of the public being witness to numerous children fighting in the street and the disruption this caused to motorists wishing to avoid injuring children in the street.
- 3.6 Given the level of disorder reported during this incident, significant policing resources were deployed not only from Brentwood but also the neighbouring areas of Basildon and Thurrock - some of whom were diverted from other callouts or investigations to restore order in Brentwood High Street.

### 4.0 Review Outcome Sought

- 4.1 Essex Police has considered the conditions put forward by the licence holder's representative but feel that these are insufficient given the above reasoning. As such the only recommendations we can make to the Licensing Sub Committee is to consider either a period of suspension or to revoke the premises licence.
- 4.2 Revocation should always be considered the option of last resort and Essex Police does not make this recommendation lightly but given the concerns highlighted at the summary review have arisen again combined with the lack of any further conditions that could be supported to reduce the risk to the Crime & Disorder objective leaves us with little choice.
- 4.3 Suspending or revoking the licence would send a clear signal to this operator that failing to comply with the conditions of the licence, breaching the licensing objectives and not working with responsible authorities can result in significant penalties being applied.

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### 5.0 Case Law

- 5.1 Essex Police asks that the sub-committee consider the case of R (on application of **Hope and Glory Public House Ltd**) v City of Westminster Magistrates' Court and Others (2011) EWCA Civ 312.
- 5.2 In this case, Lord Justice Toulson said:
  - "Licensing decisions often involve weighing a variety of competing considerations: the demand for licensed establishments, the economic benefit to the proprietor and to the locality by drawing in visitors and stimulating the demand, the effect on law and order, the impact on the lives of those who live and work in the vicinity, and so on. Sometimes a licensing decision may involve narrower questions, such as whether noise, noxious smells or litter coming from premises amount to a public nuisance. Although such questions are in a sense questions of fact, they are not questions of the 'heads or tails' variety. They involve an evaluation of what is to be regarded as reasonably acceptable in the particular location. In any case, deciding what (if any) conditions should be attached to a licence as necessary and proportionate to the promotion of the statutory licensing objectives is essentially a matter of judgment rather than a matter of pure fact."
- 5.3 The decision is important because it illustrates that licensed premises, and the activities that take place in those premises, exist in a dynamic environment, and should not be looked at entirely in isolation. The effect on a range of factors such as crime and the quality of life for residents and visitors must be considered and not just the narrow consideration of the premises itself.

### Appendix A – Police Calls & Intelligence Reports

| Date            | Intel Grading                       | Detail  |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Saturday        |                                     | Report of a fight at the premises with 2 persons  |
| 01:23           |                                     | stabbed, suspects entered without   |
| 29/05/2021      |                                     | checks/searches by security on site   |
| 29/05/2021      | 2C - Untested                       | COVID Breaches - There are breaches of Covid  |
|                 | source and is                       | regulations occurring on a regular basis at Bloc40  |
|                 | known to them                       | nightclub, High Street, Brentwood. These include  |
|                 | indirectly                          | customers being allowed to move freely in the   |
|                 |                                     | premises between tables and dancing with each   |
|                 |                                     | other on a dance floor. The premises are located  |
|                 |                                     | on the first floor and passers-by are not able to see   |
|                 |                                     | inside. It is likely this is being used to its  |
|                 | 44 5 11 11                          | advantage.  |
|                 | 1A – Reliable                       | On 26th October 2021 at 10:49 officers were on  |
|                 | source and is                       | foot patrol along Brentwood High Street and there   |
| 00/40/0004      | known by them                       | was a strong smell of cannabis coming from a  |
| 26/10/2021      | directly                            | night club called Bloc 40   |
| Sunday<br>01:00 |                                     | Report of large scale fight in street, estimates placed numbers at 50 people, CCTV checks show      |
| 20/03/2022      | or properties and department of the | group ejected from Bloc40 that led to fight. Several  |
| 20/03/2022      |                                     | crimes were recorded but victims were   |
|                 |                                     | unsupportive of police action including an assault  |
|                 |                                     | on the premises prior to the fight  |
| Saturday        |                                     | Report received from the Ambulance Service  |
| 18:00           |                                     | regarding a female found in a severe state either   |
| 23/04/2022      |                                     | from intoxication or spiking. Confirmed to have   |
|                 |                                     | come from a garage brunch being hosted at Bloc  |
|                 |                                     | 40 that afternoon   |
| Saturday        |                                     | Report of a fight on the high street of persons   |
| 02:19           |                                     | leaving the premises. A bat like weapon seen with   |
| 23/04/2022      |                                     | one male seen knock unconscious. It was noted   |
|                 |                                     | that at no point was there any sign of Bloc 40 door   |
|                 |                                     | staff   |
|                 | 2D - Untested                       | Bloc 40 nightclub hides drugs and firearms in the   |
|                 | source, it is                       | ceiling of the ladies toilets.  |
|                 | unknown how this                    | There was an incident a few weekends ago  |
| 05/40/0000      | is known to the                     | whereby a firearm was involved and this is where it   |
| 05/10/2022      | source                              | got hide.   |
|                 |                                     | Approximately 3 weeks ago, in BLOC40 nightclub  |
|                 |                                     | BRENTWOOD, several black males wanted to smoke weed and said 'we are from BRIXTON so                |
|                 |                                     | we can smoke weed here if we want.'   |
|                 | 2C – Untested                       | They were told to leave but one of the group ran  |
|                 | source who                          | into the female toilets, stood on a toilet and lifted   |
|                 |                                     |   |
| 06/10/2022      |                                     |   |
| 06/10/2022      | knows this indirectly               | up a ceiling tile and removed a gun. Gun was not fully seen. The male then left the female toilets. |

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| 24/10/2022 | 2A - Untested<br>source who<br>knows this<br>directly | On either Friday 14th October or Saturday 15th October at around midnight, a female appeared to be promoting the BLOC 40 nightclub on the High Street of Brentwood. Whilst promoting the club she has approach a group of males travelling down the high street in the direction of the Sugar Hut. She asks the group if they are over 18 which they appear to check each other before saying "yeah". The female has then offered the group a free bottle of AU vodka and free entry into Bloc40, which the group agreed to. On counting the group the female has upped her offer to two bottles before escorting the group to the door getting them passed security. At no time were IDs checked prior to entry or during the discussion.  The group was 6 males appearing to be aged around 16-20 years all wearing hoodies with hoods up and jeans. The female was described as being middle aged, mixed race with brown hair, average build and 5ft4. |
|------------|---|---|
|            | 2D - Untested   | Weapons are used at Block 40 nightclub, Brentwood.  |
|            | source, it is   | On 16/06/2023, there was a fight at the location  |
|            | unknown how this                                      | with people throwing bottles and fighting.  |
|            | is known to the                                       | The kids were not search by security and managed  |
| 17/06/2023 | source  | to enter the venue with knifes.   |

### **Debra Wright**

From:

Licensing Epping and Brentwood < licensing.epping.and.brentwood@essex.police.uk >

Sent:

03 August 2023 11:21

To:

Licensing

Subject:

Bloc 40 licence review - addition to supplemental bundle

**Attachments:** 

Addendum 1.pdf

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

Good morning,

Please find attached a document to be added to the Police supplemental bundle please.

Thank you

### **Gary Burke**

Senior Licensing Officer

Licensing Department (Alcohol & Gambling)
Essex Police I Braintree Police Station I Blyth's Meadow I CM7 3DJ

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## Premises Licence Review Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood

### Police Addendum

### 1.0 Incident Details

- 1.1 This addendum is in addition to a supplementary bundle submitted by Essex Police on 25<sup>th</sup> July in regard to a licence review for a premises known as Bloc 40
- 1.2 On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July Essex Police Licensing Officer Simon Barnes was informed of an incident reported into Essex Police by the Metropolitan Police Service. On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July a person attending Bloc 40 for a white shirt event has been threatened and then, after a small period of time, been hit by a car mounting the road in a hit and run.
- 1.3 A criminal investigation was launched by Brentwood CID. A review of the Council CCTV shows a vehicle parked east of the premises, turn towards buildings and drive into a male. The car then continues to drive with the male being pulled under the vehicle before being run over and the vehicle proceeds along the path before re-joining the road in front of the premises.
- 1.4 Licensing Officer Simon Barnes undertook a review of the CCTV earlier in the evening and noted the following timeline of events. At 2100hrs the premises begins to deploy its barriers and security appear to be on site ready soon after. First set of customers are seen arriving at around 2300hrs with most arriving at 2355.
- 1.5 Queue is seen being admitted until 0030 when the camera was re-deployed to monitor an incident occurring elsewhere. When the camera returns at 01:30 barriers had been moved into the closed position. The queue when last seen was from the premises heading west to the tree bordering the chapel ruins and would have taken significant time to process into the premises.
- 1.6 For the next 2 hours security continue to let stragglers through after search with the last noted entry being at 0229. Departures begin to start at around 02:35 with small numbers leaving periodically, a larger stream of people begin leaving at 02:55 and appears to wind up at 03:12.
- 1.7 Due to large numbers of persons and vehicles in the high street from around 0300 the road becomes regularly blocked by persons walking into the street, speaking to drivers and cars parking in the middle of the road. At 0315 the doors for Bloc 40 are seen to be closed, and at 0317 a large argument starts nearby. At this time 2 security guards are seen outside the front of the premises but it is unclear if they have seen the disturbance as they do not react.

- 1.8 At 0320 the guards move from the premises and are joined by two further guards towards the disturbance and begin to break up the group. After a few minutes the guards leave and enter the premises. The incident then begins as outlined in paragraph 1.3.
- 1.9 Bloc 40 has a last entry condition in Annex 3. This is condition 8 which reads: "After midnight, no persons shall be admitted or re-admitted to the premises unless from a designated smoking area. Notices to that effect (of a minimum size of 200mm x 148mm) will be displayed at the premises' exits/entrances." Given that entries are seen as late as 02:29 this is a clear breach of this condition.
- 1.10 On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August a request was submitted to the Premises Licence Holder, Mr Ahmet Melin, to access to the CCTV covering both internal and external views.
- 1.11 Given the timing of this event and the end of the consultation period, it has not been possible for Essex Police to complete an investigation into this incident. It should be taken that at this time, it is not possible to confirm or deny a link between this incident and the licensable activity being undertaken by the premises and as such consideration should be given to this limited position.
- 1.12 It is our concern that an event has been held with entry being beyond the last entry timing of the licence and departure from the premises appears to be far beyond the licensable activity time for the premises.
- 1.13 Given the limited time between requests being made and the end of the consultation it has not been possible for the licence holder to respond to our request by the time of writing and no inference should be given against the licence holder of not giving the CCTV to police prior to the submission of this addendum.
- 1.14 Essex Police shall continue its investigation into any concerns regarding this incident. In accordance with paragraph 9.37 of the Statutory Guidance, Essex Police may amplify its representation at the subsequent hearing. Essex Police may also produce further documentary or other information in support of this objection ahead of the hearing and would ask the authority to take this into account as it may do under Regulation 18 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

### BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ

# APPENDIX 2

### Premises Licence

issued 8 August 2023

plus

OS Maps & Images



### **Premises Licence**

**Premises Licence Number** 

PRM\_0545

**Application Number** 

21/00089/LAVDPS

Date of Issue

08 August 2023

### Part 1 - Premises Details

Postal address of premises, or if none, ordnance survey map reference or description, including Post Town, Post Code

Bloc 40 First Floor 40 High Street Brentwood Essex CM14 4AJ

Telephone number

Where the licence is time limited the dates

Licensable activities authorised by the licence

Indoor Sporting Event
Playing of Recorded music
Sale by Retail of Alcohol

Times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

### **Indoor Sporting Event**

| Monday    | 11:00 - | 02:00 |
|-----------|---------|-------|
| Tuesday   | 11:00 - | 02:00 |
| Wednesday | 11:00 - | 02:00 |
| Thursday  | 11:00 - | 02:00 |
| Friday    | 11:00 - | 02:00 |
| Saturday  | 11:00 - | 02:00 |
| Sunday    | 11:00 - | 02:00 |

### Playing of Recorded music

| Monday    | 11:00 - 02:00 |
|-----------|---------------|
| Tuesday   | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Wednesday | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Thursday  | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Friday    | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Saturday  | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Sunday    | 11:00 - 02:00 |

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| Sale by Retail of Alcohol |               |  |
|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| Monday                    | 11:00 - 02:00 |  |
| Tuesday                   | 11:00 - 02:00 |  |
| Wednesday                 | 11:00 - 02:00 |  |
| Thursday                  | 11:00 - 02:00 |  |
| Friday                    | 11:00 - 02:00 |  |
| Saturday                  | 11:00 - 02:00 |  |
| Sunday                    | 11:00 - 02:00 |  |

| Monday    | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
|-----------|---------------|--|
| Tuesday   | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Wednesday | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Thursday  | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Friday    | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Saturday  | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Sunday    | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |

Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol whether these are on and / or off supplies

Alcohol is supplied for consumption both on and off the Premise

#### Part 2

Name, (registered) address, telephone number and email (where relevant) of holder of premises licence

A A Trading Ltd 40 High Street Brentwood Essex CM14 4AJ

Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)

**Company Number** 

09287224

Name, address and telephone number of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol

Leonora Maria Dunne

Personal licence number and issuing authority of personal licence held by designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol

Personal Licence Number: Licensing Authority:

### Annex 1 - Mandatory conditions

- 1 No supply of alcohol may be made under this licence
  - a) At a time when there is no designated supervisor in respect of it or,
  - b) At a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or his personal licence is suspended
- 2 Every supply of alcohol made under this licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.
- 3 (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
  - (2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.
  - (3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either—
  - (a) a holographic mark, or .
  - (b) an ultraviolet feature.
- 4 (A). A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.
  - (B). For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 1 -
  - (a) "duty" is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979:
  - (b) "permitted price" is the price found by applying the formula where-

$$P = D + (D X V)$$

- (i) P is the permitted price,
- (ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and
- (iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol:
- (c) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence-
  - (i) the holder of the premises licence,
- (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
- (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence:

- (d) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and
- (e) "valued added tax" means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.
- 5 (1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.
  - (2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises—
  - (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to— .
  - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or .
  - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise); .
  - (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective; .
  - (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective; .
  - (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner; .
  - (e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of disability).
- 6 The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available

- 7 The responsible person must ensure that—
  - (a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures—
  - (i) beer or cider: 1/2 pint;
  - (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and,
  - (ii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml;
  - (b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and .
  - (c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available."
- 8 Only individuals licensed by the Security Industry Authority may be used at the premises to guard against:
  - a) Unauthorised access or occupation (eg through door supervision), or
  - b) Outbreaks of disorder, or
  - c) Damage

## Annex 2 – Conditions consistent with the Operating Schedule

- The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system covering the internal and external of the premises which is of evidential quality. It will also cover all entry and exit points enabling full frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open to the public and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings will be kept in an unedited format for a period of not less the 31 days with correct time and date stamping. Recording shall be made available immediately upon lawful request of Essex Police or other Responsible Authority. Download or export of CCTV should be in the native file format with the native player.
- A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be available at all times when the premises are open to the public. This staff member must be able to show Essex Police or other Responsible Authority recent data or footage with the absolute minimum of delay.
- 3 A plan of the premises identifying the location and direction of CCTV coverage shall be served on Essex Police and the Licensing Authority each time it is altered.
- 4 When licensable activities are permitted beyond 00:00, a minimum of 2 SIA registered Door Supervisors shall be deployed from 21:00 and remain on duty until closing time and all customers have left the premises.
- A bound Door Supervisors register shall be kept. Door Supervisors shall sign to record their start and finish times along with their full name and SIA badge number.
- 6 When SIA registered Door Supervisors are on duty random searching of people and their possessions will be carried out.
- 7 Security measures shall be installed to the stairs in the outside licensed area so use of the emergency escape is only in an emergency and to prevent access to the residential area being used by customers.
- 8 Reasonable and adequate staff training to be carried out and properly documented in relation to:
  - (i) Dealing with incidents and prevention of crime and disorder.
  - (ii) Sale of alcohol (to underage, persons over 18 purchasing for underage, drunks, etc.) prior to being allowed to sell alcohol.
- 9 All training records will be retained for 12 months and made available to Essex Police or other Responsible Authority upon reasonable request.
- 10 The Premises Licence Holder shall have a Dispersal Policy. A copy of which will be made available to Essex Police and Responsible Authority upon request.

- 11 No persons shall be allowed to leave the Premises whilst in possession of any drinking glass vessel or open glass bottle whether empty or containing any beverage.
- 12 Notices shall be prominently displayed at all exits requesting patrons to leave quietly.
- 13 Clear & legible notices shall be prominently displayed in, and at the entrance to any outside licensed area requesting customers to use the area quietly.
- 14 Customers shall not enter or leave the premises by the stairs into the outside licensed area at any time, except in the event of an emergency.
- 15 The premises shall operate a Challenge 25 age verification policy. Any person who appears to be under the age of 25 shall be asked to produce photographic identification to prove they are 18 or over. Failure to produce will result in service being refused. Acceptable forms of photographic identification include:
  - o Passport.
  - o Photo card Driving Licence,
  - o Photographic ID bearing the 'PASS' hologram.
- 16 No licensable activities shall take place in external areas at any time.
- 17 No speakers shall be installed or used in the external areas.
- 18 A noise limiter shall be fitted and set to the satisfaction of Environmental Health Services. The level of the noise limiter shall be set with the rear fire exit door open and monitored at the nearest residential noise sensitive premises.
- 19 All windows and doors to be kept closed during regulated entertainment, with the exception for access and egress.
- 20 The External area shall be monitored by a member of staff with the purpose of controlling noise from customers and ensuring public safety.
- 21 The outside terrace area to be covered by CCTV to the satisfaction of Essex Police.
- 22 The premises is only to serve drinks in polycarbonate, plastic or other safety glass only.

### Annex 3 – Conditions attached after a hearing by the licensing authority

- 1 The terrace to be monitored by a staff member at intervals of no more than 30 minutes.
- 2 The maximum capacity for the terrace to be a maximum of 30 people at any given time.
- 3 No alcohol to be Consumed on the terrace after 11pm.
- 4 Noise at the premises limited after 11pm to a decibel level to be agreed with Environmental Health Department of the Council. A noise limiter shall be fitted and set to the satisfaction of Environmental Health Services. The level of the noise limiter shall be set with the rear fire exit door open and monitored at the nearest residential noise sensitive premises.
- 5 Sufficient lighting to be maintained on the terrace during licensable hours and for the lighting to be monitored and agreed with the Environmental Health Department of the Council.
- At all times where, as a condition of the licence, door supervisors are employed at the premises, a Clubscan/IDSCAN or similar system shall be operated at the premises. All persons entering the premises must provide verifiable ID and have their details recorded on the system.
- 7 At all times where, as a condition of the licence, door supervisors are employed at the premises, all customers entering the premises will be subject to a scan with a metal detector wand.
- 8 After midnight, no persons shall be admitted or re-admitted to the premises unless from a designated smoking area. Notices to that effect (of a minimum size of 200mm x 148mm) will be displayed at the premises' exits/entrances.
- 9 At all times where, as a condition of the licence, door supervisors are employed at the premises, at least two door supervisors will wear Body Worn Video Cameras (BWV). Recordings of BWV shall be retained for a minimum of 31 days and be made available to Essex Police or an authorised officer of the licensing authority upon reasonable request.
  - a. Any use of force situations.
  - b. When it may be reasonably supposed a use of force situation is imminent.
  - c. When conducting a non-intimate consensual search as a condition of entry.
  - d. When dealing with an individual who is making threats of violence toward any other person or
  - e. Initial scene capture where a criminal offence appears to have taken place.
- 10 On commencement of initial employment at the venue, each door supervisor shall be briefed by both a head doorman and a management representative which covers use of force, the tone to be set etc. and a record made of who delivered the briefing and to whom. This briefing will be refreshed every six months and similarly recorded.

- 11 When door supervisors are engaged and/or working at the premises, nonintimate searches of patrons or proposed patrons, will take place in areas where searching will be recorded on CCTV
- 12 All SIA licensed door supervisors engaged at the premises for the purpose of supervising customers must wear high visibility armbands and those deployed outside must also where high visibility jackets or vests. Door supervisors are prohibited from concealing their heads or faces by the use of balaclavas/hoodies or similar items of clothing.
- 13 An incident log shall be kept at the premises and made immediately available to police or licensing authority staff upon reasonable request.

The log must be completed as soon as is possible and within any case within 4 hours of the occurrence and shall record the following:

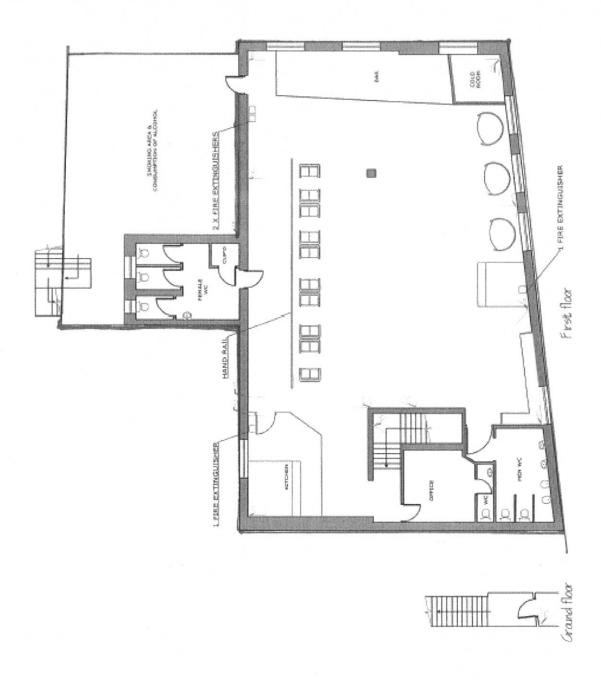
- (a) all crimes reported to the venue
- (b) all ejections of patrons
- (c) any complaints received concerning crime and disorder
- (d) any incidents of disorder
- (e) all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons
- (f) any faults in a CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment mandated as a condition of the licence

The incident log shall either be electronic or maintained in a bound document with individually numbered pages and be retained for at least 12 months from the date of the last entry.

- 14 The outside licensed area shall have a screen installed along the wall to be a minimum height of 2 meters or the height specified by building control, whichever is greater, to prevent objects falling off and/or being thrown.
- 15 At least one member of SIA licensed door staff to be on the terrace at all times after 11pm on Fridays, Saturdays and public holiday eves until closing if members of the public are present.
- 16 A written noise management policy which is acceptable to Brentwood Borough Council Environmental Health Team shall be put in place and adhered to. The Policy shall include noise dampening measures such as noise attenuation screens around the outside roof terrace to be installed at the premises.

### Annex 4 – Plans

This licence is issued subject to the attached plan dated 21/20/2020 marked 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ





## **Premises Licence Summary**

**Premises Licence Number** 

PRM\_0545

**Application Number** 

21/00089/LAVDPS

Date of Issue

08 August 2023

#### Part 1 - Premises Details

Postal address of premises, or if none, ordnance survey map reference or description, including Post Town, Post Code

Bloc 40 First Floor 40 High Street Brentwood Essex CM14 4AJ

Telephone number

Where the licence is time limited the dates

Licensable activities authorised by the licence

Indoor Sporting Event Playing of Recorded music Sale by Retail of Alcohol

Times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

#### **Indoor Sporting Event**

| Monday    | 11:00 - 02:00 |
|-----------|---------------|
| Tuesday   | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Wednesday | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Thursday  | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Friday    | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Saturday  | 11:00 - 02:00 |
| Sunday    | 11:00 - 02:00 |
|           |               |

| Monday  | 11:00 - 02:00   |
|---|---|
| Tuesday   | 11:00 - 02:00   |
| Wednesday   | 11:00 - 02:00   |
| Thursday  | 11:00 - 02:00   |
| Friday  | 11:00 - 02:00   |
| Saturday  | 11:00 - 02:00   |
|   |   |
| Sunday<br>y Retail of Alcohol   | 11:00 - 02:00   |
| y Retail of Alcohol   |   |
| y Retail of Alcohol<br>Monday   | 11:00 - 02:00   |
| y Retail of Alcohol<br>Monday<br>Tuesday                                    | 11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00  |
| y Retail of Alcohol<br>Monday<br>Tuesday<br>Wednesday                       | 11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00                                   |
| y Retail of Alcohol<br>Monday<br>Tuesday<br>Wednesday<br>Thursday           | 11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00                  |
| y Retail of Alcohol<br>Monday<br>Tuesday<br>Wednesday<br>Thursday<br>Friday | 11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00 |
| y Retail of Alcohol<br>Monday<br>Tuesday<br>Wednesday<br>Thursday           | 11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00<br>11:00 - 02:00                  |

| Monday    | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
|-----------|---------------|--|
| Tuesday   | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Wednesday | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Thursday  | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Friday    | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Saturday  | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |
| Sunday    | 11:00 - 02:30 |  |

Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol whether these are on and / or off supplies

Alcohol is supplied for consumption both on and off the Premise

#### Part 2

Name, (registered) address, telephone number and email (where relevant) of holder of premises licence

A A Trading Ltd 40 High Street Brentwood Essex CM14 4AJ

Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)

**Company Number** 

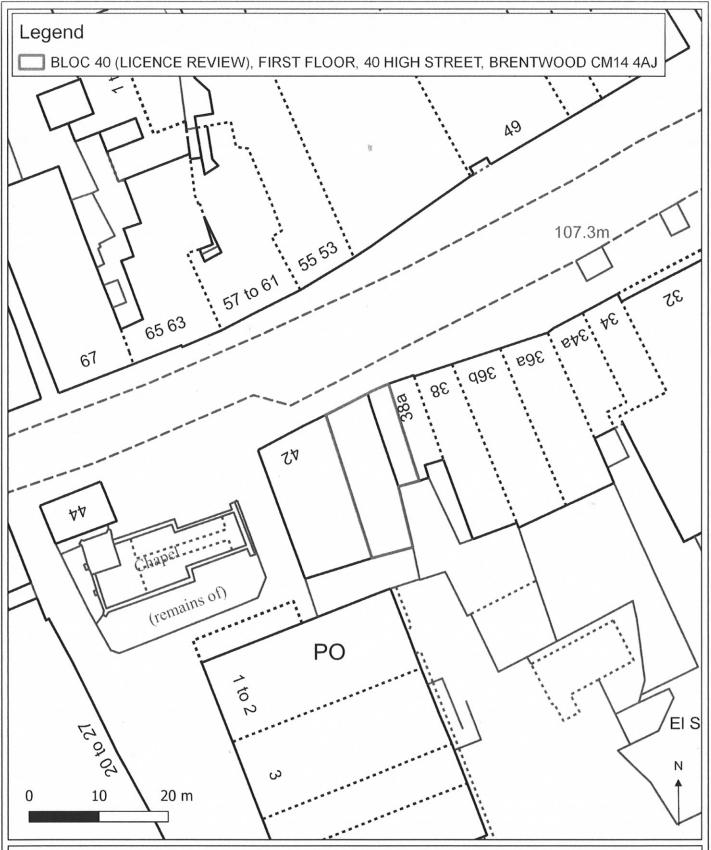
09287224

Name of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol

Leonora Maria Dunne

Personal licence number and issuing authority of personal licence held by designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol

Personal Licence Number: Licensing Authority:



# BLOC 40 (LICENCE REVIEW), FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ

Drawing No.:

Scale at A4: 1:500 Drawn by: OSJ

Service: ICT

Date: 17th July 2022

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Page 51



Jonathan Stephenson Chief Executive Brentwood Borough Council Town Hall, Ingrave Road Brentwood, CM15 8AY Tel.: (01277) 312500



# BLOC 40 (LICENCE REVIEW), FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ

Drawing No.:

Scale at A4: 1:1250 Drawn by: OSJ

Service: ICT

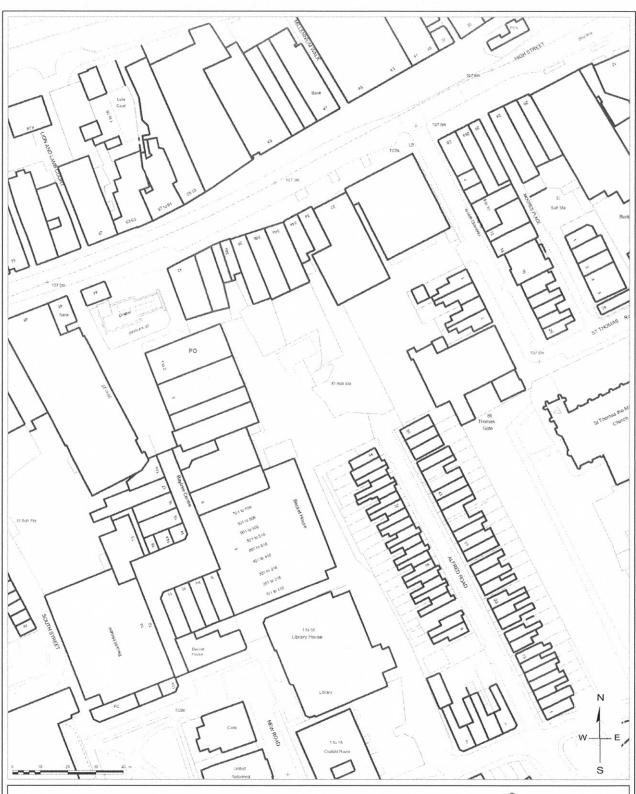
Date: 17th July 2022

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Jonathan Stephenson
Chief Executive
Brentwood Borough Council
Town Hall, Ingrave Road
Brentwood, CM15 8AY
Tel.: (01277) 312500



# BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH ST, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ

Drawing No.:

Scale at A4: 1:1250

Drawn by: OSJ

Service : ICT

Date: 8th September 2020

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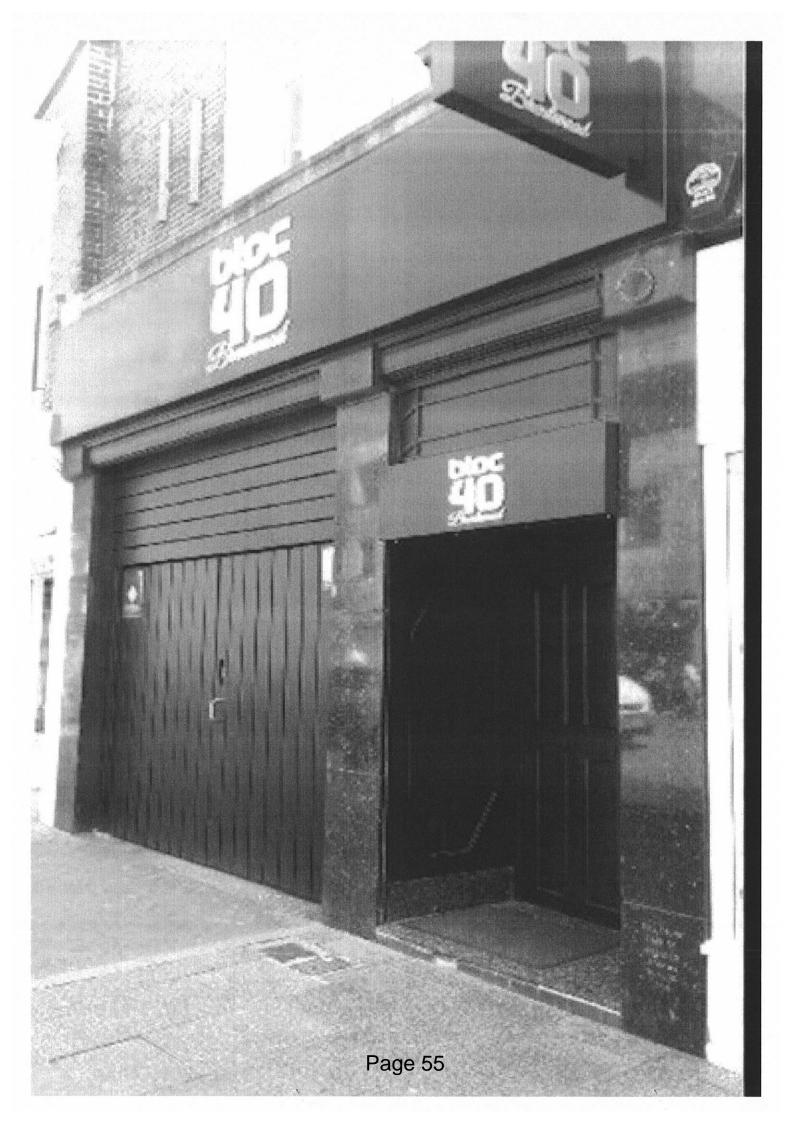


Jonathan Stephenson Chief Executive Brentwood Borough Council Town Hall, Ingrave Road Brentwood, CM15 8AY Tel.: (01277) 312500





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### BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AI

# APPENDIX 3

**REPRESENTATION** 

Responsible Authority

Mr David Carter

Environmental Health Team Manager
Brentwood Borough Council

#### Dominika Jaskolska

From:

David Carter

Sent:

03 August 2023 15:24 Licensing; Essex Police

To: Cc:

'Ahmet Melin'

Subject:

Application for a Premise Licence Review - Bloc40 High Street Brentwood Essex

Attachments:

Bloc40 Review Rep.pdf

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

#### Dear Sirs

Please find attached a copy of Brentwood Borough Council's Environmental Health Team representation to the review of the Premises Licence requested by Essex Police

#### Regards

#### David

David Carter | Environmental Health Manager | Brentwood Borough Council T 01277 312509 | F 01277 312743 | <a href="mailto:www.brentwood.gov.uk">www.brentwood.gov.uk</a> | <a href="mailto:david.carter@brentwood.gov.uk">david.carter@brentwood.gov.uk</a> | <a href="mailto:david.carter@brentwood.gov.uk">da

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Date: 03 August 2023 Our ref: 23/001234/LICON Your ref:

The Licensing Authority Brentwood Borough Council Town Hall Ingrave Road Brentwood Essex CM15 8AY

cc Essex Police County Licensing Hub Mr Ahmet Melin Bloc40 First Floor 40 High Street Brentwood Essex CM14 4AJ

Dear Sirs

## Application for Premises Licence Review - Licensing Act 2003 Bloc 40 First Floor 40 High Street Brentwood

I refer to the above application for review of the premises licence at Bloc 40, First Floor 40 High Street Brentwood submitted by Essex Police which was received on 7 July 2023 by the Environmental Health Pollution Team of Brentwood Borough Council.

I would wish to make the following representation on behalf of Environmental Health.

The application for review relates to an incident taking place on 16 June 2023 causing a disturbance within the premises and later outside the premises.

Essex Police have raised concerns relating to all four of the licensing objectives, including the prevention of public nuisance.

Whilst this incident is not a matter that the Environmental Health Pollution Team would be involved with, I would also wish to make a representation to this review regarding the licensing objective of prevention of public nuisance.

The operation of these premises late at night, particularly at the weekends, has given rise to complaints of noise nuisance from residents living in Brentwood High Street and adjacent areas including Alfred Road to the rear of the venue since the premises has been in operation, in particular recent complaints have been received in May and July 2023.

These recent complaints have alleged disturbance from the rear terrace, with the rear door to the venue permitting noise breakout from the bar area of the venue and noise from customers permitted in the open-air area at the rear. It therefore appears that activities at the bar continue to cause concern to residents.

Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY tel 01277 312 500 fax 01277 312 743 minicom 01277 312 809 www.brentwood.gov.uk

Environmental Health have been involved in investigation of noise complaints and have managed to agree limits on internal noise levels within the premises after meetings with the premises management and legal representatives.

We were consulted by Planning on a retrospective planning application submitted in 2022 for change of use from the former snooker hall to the bar/nightclub currently in operation.

Additional measures, including alterations to the rear terrace area and an internal lobby to reduce noise breakout from the rear access onto the terrace were proposed by Environmental Health as conditions to provide additional control of noise from the terrace and noise breakout from the rear door from the main room of the bar onto the terrace.

The application for planning permission was refused by the Council Planning Committee in February 2023 and it is understood that no appeal has been made against this decision to date.

The planning decision notice issued stated that the use of the premises as a bar/nightclub is 'not acceptable in this location because of the harm it will cause to nearby residents and other users of this part of the High Street arising from noise, disturbance and anti-social behaviour from comings and goings arising from its use, and especially from the first-floor terrace area'.

Whilst the planning team will be able to make their representations on this review, our concern is that the additional measures that were considered necessary and required as planning conditions to deal with noise from the rear terrace and internal noise breakout do not appear to have been implemented due to the refusal of planning permission.

Further noise from the terrace and rear access to the bar area has resulted in the additional complaints from the public and a representation to this review from a member of the public affected by the noise disturbance.

I would therefore wish the review hearing to consider whether the additional controls to prevent noise disturbance to nearby residents that were proposed to be included as planning conditions should be implemented as conditions within the premises licence if this is amended by the hearing.

Yours faithfully

David Carter

Environmental Health Manager Environmental Health & Licensing

Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY tel 01277 312 500 fax 01277 312 743 minicom 01277 312 809 www.brentwood.gov.uk



## BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AI

# <u>APPENDIX 4</u>

# **REPRESENTATION**

Responsible Authority

Mr Dave Leonard

Licensing Officer

Brentwood Borough Council

#### Dominika Jaskolska

From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

03 August 2023 18:54

To:

Licensing

Cc:

Paul Adams

Subject:

BLOC 40 - APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE - LICENSING REPRESENTATION

(DAVE LEONARD)

Attachments:

BLOC 40 REVIEW - LIC REP 03AUG23.pdf; BLOC 40 - APPENDICES LIST.pdf

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

Licensing Act 2003 - Application to Review a Premises Licence Bloc 40, first Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

#### Representation by a Responsible Authority (Licensing)

I wish to make a representation in support of the application by the Chief of Essex Police to review the premises licence at Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ.

I make this representation as a Responsible Authority (Licensing) in my capacity as the Brentwood Borough Council Licensing Officer as permitted by virtue of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended).

Please find attached my representation together with an Appendix sheet listing the documents I will be producing in support. I will attach the Appendices to separate emails owing to the size of the files.

I will also arrange for a digital transfer of the CCTV exhibits DL/1, DL/2 & DL/3 in due course.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on

Kind regards and stay safe,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

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Paul Adams Licensing Manager, Brentwood Borough Council Depot The Drive Warley CM13 3BH

Date:

3 August 2023

Contact:

**Dave Leonard** 

Licensing Act 2003 – Application to Review a Premises Licence Bloc 40, first Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

#### Representation by a Responsible Authority (Licensing)

I wish to make a representation in support of the application by the Chief of Essex Police to review the premises licence at *Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ*.

I also contend that BLOC 40 have failed to adequately promote all four licensing objectives relating to the prevention of crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance, public safety and the protection of children from harm.

I was made aware by the police of a 14<sup>th</sup> birthday party that took place in BLOC 40 on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and of a fight taking place in and around the bar area that turned into a serious disturbance which then spilled onto the High Street at around 9.15PM. This resulted in eleven (11) police units called to the location to deal with youths fighting.

The licensing department were sent a video clip that was circulating on social media, the footage is of the fight taking place in the premises and shows youths go behind the bar and take bottles to use as weapons. There was no sign of any security trying to break the fighting up or safeguard those caught up in the melee. It can clearly be seen that alcohol is on display behind the bar counter for an event held for minors. I produce the video recording of this incident as Exhibit DL/1. We were also passed another social media clip by Essex Police of the fighting that continued into the High Street, and I produce this recording as Exhibit DL/2. I will also refer to the BBC CCTV recorded footage covering the event and I produce this recording as Exhibit DL/3.

I am also aware of the Police's frustration at requesting CCTV recorded coverage of the incident from BLOC 40 and being repeatedly ignored. Which is a breach of the licence conditions. I, too, was repeatedly ignored when making lawful requests for CCTV recorded footage in 2020 and 2021 when investigating blatant covid regulations breaches and serious multiple assaults, respectively. I raised these failures to comply and their deliberate acts of obstruction at the last Licensing Review hearing in 2021. I have attached copies of my previous unheeded requests for CCTV recordings to Mr Melin and his agent at **Appendix 1**.

Failure to comply with this request directly breaches Annex 2 Conditions 1 & 2 of the premises licence and is what ultimately left the police with little choice but to seek a further review of the premises licence;

- 1 The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system covering the internal and external of the premises which is of evidential quality. It will also cover all entry and exit points enabling full frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open to the public and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings will be kept in an unedited format for a period of not less the 31 days with correct time and date stamping. Recording shall be made available immediately upon lawful request of Essex Police or other Responsible Authority. Download or export of CCTV should be in the native file format with the native player.
- 2 A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be available at all times when the premises are open to the public. This staff member must be able to show Essex Police or other Responsible Authority recent data or footage with the absolute minimum of delay.

Since receiving the police application seeking a review of the premises licence, during the period of the consultation and in accordance with The Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licences and club premises certificates) Regulations 2005, the Licensing Authority must advertise an application for review by displaying prominently a notice which is of a prescribed size, and which must be of a pale blue colour, at, on or near the site of the premises to which the application relates where it can conveniently be read from the exterior of the premises by the public. Two notices were posted (one on each side of the entrance) on 6 July 2023 but by 10 July they had both been removed and one of them had been replaced in the venue's events advertising frame that had a yellow perspex covering. This had the effect of changing the appearance of the colour of the required pale blue form and making it no longer prominent. I reposted a single blue notice on 14 July and by 17 July that had also been removed. I reposted a further blue notice over the second advertising board and sent Mr Melin an advisory warning letter explaining the need to leave the notice in its posted position and it has remained there for the remainder of the consultation period. Images of the blue notices being displayed and removed on the dates mentioned and the advisory letter to Mr Melin are attached at Appendix 2.

On 23 July 2023 BLOC 40 hosted an event that is referred to as a "white shirt event." At its conclusion, the partygoers were dispersing from the venue up until 3.15am in the morning, with customers spilling into and across the road and caused absolute chaos with the moving traffic This, combined with the illegal parking of vehicles along the High Street made for a very unsafe situation.

An incident occurs where a dispersing customer is deliberately driven at by a car that mounts the pavement and runs over him before driving off at speed. The incident was captured on BBC CCTV, and I exhibit this CCTV recording as DL3. Upon viewing the BBC CCTV recorded footage of the incident and the monitoring of BLOC 40 entrance preceding it, what does become apparent is that a large proportion of customers are

still queuing as far back as the church ruins waiting to gain entry at 11.55pm. It is quite clearly not possible from the numbers present to have been able to admit all of them into the premises before midnight and, therefore, there is a breach of Annex 3 condition 8 - a condition attached by the Licensing Sub-Committee at a hearing:

8 After midnight, no persons shall be admitted or re-admitted to the premises unless from a designated smoking area. Notices to that effect (of a minimum size of 200mm x 148mm) will be displayed at the premises' exits/entrances.

However, if there was any doubt as to this condition breach, further viewing of the CCTV recording showed the last person being searched and allowed entry at 2.29AM.

I must also point out that all licensable activity permitted to BLOC 40 ends at 0200hrs and the premises is to be closed to the public at 0230hrs. No temporary event notice had been submitted for this date and people were leaving the venue up to 3.15AM. One has to ask the question what activity was taking place in the venue from 0200hrs, when all licensable activity must cease, until 0300hrs. I understand that the police have since requested access to view the CCTV coverage for that period.

I draw reference to an email from the DPS, dated 20 January 2020, that she sent to me at that time asking to be removed as the DPS with immediate effect. (She has since subsequently returned and is the current DPS) This was following a call that she made to me claiming she was not comfortable putting her personal licence at risk when the management continually advertised and operated past their 2am licence. I now attach this email and subsequent response at **Appendix 3**.

On the majority of occasions that appointments have been arranged with the management to discuss concerns that have been raised, Mr Melin has been present and no DPS has been in attendance. All requests made to Mr Melin, as the owner, have been done so in response to complaints or enquiries received or observations noted and all have been made, without prejudice, to ensure that the four licensing objectives are being safely and faithfully complied with. Undertakings offered in response to requests made in order to provide policy clarification on matters raised such as sound levels/noise limiter installation (environmental health), roof terrace safety (planning), safe capacity and exit strategy (fire service) coronavirus social distancing images (health & safety) and CCTV recording requests, dispersal policies and DPS attendance have not only been unforthcoming, but they have been blatantly ignored. Despite being provided with ample opportunity to address matters and allay concerns raised, the owner and his advisor have elected to be confrontational, obstructive and dismissive.

I also draw the Sub-Committee's attention to a number of warning letters for non-compliance that have been issued to Mr Melin since 2019. These are attached at *Appendix 4*.

In conclusion and summary of my representation, it is clear that Mr Melin, the sole director of AA Trading Ltd (the licence holder) is the person in control of the licence, and that whoever the DPS is that is named on the licence has no active role in the management of the premises or in relation to the sale of alcohol.

It is also evident that Mr Melin has already failed to comply with conditions that are already attached to the licence. Attaching further conditions is only a consideration if the licence holder is willing to comply with them. Not only has Mr Melin not complied with current conditions but demonstrates his disregard for the lawful requests and advice given by Responsible Authorities by not upholding undertakings made previously, particularly in response to previous issues to avert more formal action. Even now, with another Licensing Review hearing pending, the premises continues to operate in breach of its conditions.

An application to review a premises licence is generally applied for when all means of remedial action have failed and there is no other course of action available to take. This premises has now been the subject of THREE review applications. Additional conditions have previously been imposed and the premises has also had its licence suspended at the last review in 2021. It is my contention that the attachment of conditions, or a further suspension would not be effective in promotion of the Licensing objectives and I see no point in seeking to ask for further assurances and undertakings from a management that has consistently shown that they have no intention of honouring.

I, therefore, respectfully request that the Licensing Sub-Committee give careful consideration into revoking the premises licence at BLOC 40.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on

Yours sincerely,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

| www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

Dave Leonard Licensing Officer

#### BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ



- 1. Email Requests for CCTV recordings
- 2. Blue Notices Images & Advisory Letter 17 July 2023
- 3. Email correspondence with DPS Ms Leonora Dunne 20 January 2020
- 4. Warning Letters sent to Ahmet Melin

#### Dominika Jaskolska

From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

03 August 2023 18:55

To:

Licensing

Cc:

Paul Adams

Subject:

BLOC 40 - APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE - LICENSING REPRESENTATION

(DAVE LEONARD)(2) APPENDIX 1

Attachments:

BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020; FW: Re Bloc 40; Re: Re Bloc 40; FW: Bloc 40; Bloc 40 - Licence visit follow up 10/12/21.; FW: Bloc 40 meeting; RE: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020; FW: Bloc 40 meeting; FW: Bloc 40 meeting; RE: Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ; Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ; Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ - LAWFUL REQUEST FOR CCTV RECORDING & TO VIEW OTHER DATA; Re: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020; Bloc 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020; Bloc 40 - Request for CCTV recordings 29th and 30 August 2020; Re: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV

COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020

Follow Up Flag: Flag Status: Follow up Completed

Licensing Act 2003 – Application to Review a Premises Licence Bloc 40, first Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

#### Representation by a Responsible Authority (Licensing)

I wish to make a representation in support of the application by the Chief of Essex Police to review the premises licence at *Bloc 40*, *First Floor*, *40 High Street*, *Brentwood CM14 4AJ*.

I make this representation as a Responsible Authority (Licensing) in my capacity as the Brentwood Borough Council Licensing Officer as permitted by virtue of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended).

Please find attached the Appendix 1 files in support of my representation.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office or

Kind regards,

Dave Loopard LLicensing Officer

www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

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From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

04 September 2020 16:34

To:

Cc:

Paul Adams

Subject:

BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020

Dear Mr Melin.

Licensing Act 2003 – Premises Licence Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

On Thursday, 3 September 2020 at 1.45pm, together with Licensing Manager Paul Adams, I met with you to advise of concerns being reported by members of the public suggesting that there is a recurring failure to comply with, or respect, the social distancing guidance during this current pandemic by the management of the premises.

The simplest way to dispel these claims, and so allay our concerns, was to view the CCTV coverage in accordance with Annex 2 condition 1 of the premises licence:

The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system covering the internal and external of the premises which is of evidential quality. It will also cover all entry and exit points enabling full frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open to the public and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings will be kept in an unedited format for a period of not less the 31 days with correct time and date stamping. Recording shall be made available immediately upon lawful request of Essex Police or other Responsible Authority. Download or export of CCTV should be in the native file format with the native player.

You advised us that you are currently experiencing difficulties with the CCTV system and that you were unable to comply with our request at the time. However, you did explain that an engineer was due to visit and resolve the issue later that afternoon.

In accordance with Annex 2, condition 1 of the premises licence, I request a copy of the CCTV coverage inside the premises between 10.30pm and midnight on both Saturday 29 August 2020 and Sunday 30 August 2020.

Please comply with this request within two working days and advise this office when the CCTV recording is ready for collection.

Can you please also confirm that your CCTV system is now back in full working order and operating in compliance with the conditions of the premises licence. Thank you.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on

ı(

Kind regards and stay safe,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

From:

Ahmet Melin

Sent:

04 September 2020 17:16

To:

Dave Leonard

Subject:

Re: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020

Hello David

Thanks for your time yesterday.

I can confirm that the cameras are working again.

With regards to the request of the cctv footage can you confirm what camera you would like to see, I've got so many there will be hours and hours of footage. I am able to get snap shots of the cameras to show you this might be easier please let me know and i will arrange this for you.

Many thanks

Ahmet

#### Get Outlook for iOS

From: Dave Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 16:34

To:

Cc: Paul Adams

Subject: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020

Dear Mr Melin,

Licensing Act 2003 – Premises Licence Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

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In accordance with Annex 2, condition 1 of the premises licence, I request a copy of the CCTV coverage inside the premises between 10.30pm and midnight on both Saturday 29 August 2020 and Sunday 30 August 2020.

Please comply with this request within two working days and advise this office when the CCTV recording is ready for collection.

Can you please also confirm that your CCTV system is now back in full working order and operating in compliance with the conditions of the premises licence. Thank you.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on



Kind regards and stay safe,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

T: | www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk



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From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

09 September 2020 13:22

To:

Ahmet Melin

Cc:

Paul Adams

Subject:

RE: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020

Hi Ahmet.

I'm pleased to see that the CCTV system is now in good working order and operating in accordance with the conditions on your premises licence.

I'm still waiting for a copy of the recorded CCTV footage as requested on Friday 4th September 2020;

In accordance with Annex 2, condition 1 of the premises licence, I request a copy of the CCTV coverage inside the premises between 10.30pm and midnight on both Saturday 29 August 2020 and Sunday 30 August 2020.

No need to worry about all the peripheral and outside camera coverage or bother with snap shots. I would like to view the camera coverage inside the premises covering;

- the area that would, in normal times, be described as the dance floor area,
- · the bar servery area, and
- the seating layout.

Once again, advise this office when the CCTV recording is ready for collection. Thank you.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Kind regards,

Dave

From: Ahmet Meli

Sent: 04 September 2020 17:16

To: Dave Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020

Hello David

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I can confirm that the cameras are working again.

With regards to the request of the cctv footage can you confirm what camera you would like to see, I've got so many there will be hours and hours of footage. I am able to get snap shots of the cameras to show you this might be easier please let me know and I will arrange this for you.

Many thanks

Ahmet

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From: Dave Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 16:34

To

Cc: Paul Adams

Subject: BLOC 40 - REQUEST FOR CCTV COVERAGE RECORDINGS - 29th & 30th AUGUST 2020

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Can you please also confirm that your CCTV system is now back in full working order and operating in compliance with the conditions of the premises licence. Thank you.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on

ce on

Kind regards and stay safe,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

| www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

From:

David Dadd

Sent:

11 September 2020 13:41

To:

Dave Leonard

Subject:

Bloc 40 - Request for CCTV recordings 29th and 30 August 2020

#### Dear Mr Leonard,

We are instructed on behalf of the premises. Can we ask please on what basis the CCTV is being requested? Notwithstanding there is a condition on the licence, under GDPR we require on what basis is the CCTV being sought.

Can you please clarify which licensing offence if any you are investing as the licensing authority?

Thank you for confirming you undertook an inspection/unannounced visit (raid) last weekend and you were satisfied that the premises was operating lawfully and there was no undermining of the licensing objectives and no breach of conditions, i.e. no relevant licensing offences.

If there are any concerns that you have regarding the operations, as I indicated in our conversation, please do feel free to raise them with me. We are working with the premises in advising them how they fulfil their obligations and interpret other guidance in relation to their operations, as you will appreciate fall outside the Licensing Act 2003.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

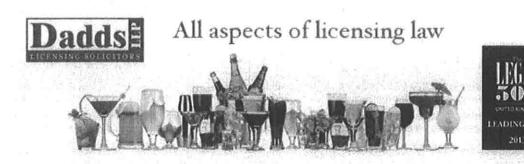
# David Dadds

## Dadds LLP Licensing Solicitors

Crescent House, 51 High St, Billericay, Essex CM12 9AX T 01277 631 811 F 01277 631 055 DX 32202 BILLERICAY

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From:

Elaine Higgins

Sent:

29 September 2020 16:42

To:

Dave Leonard

Subject:

FW: Bloc 40 meeting

From: Elaine Higgins

Sent: 25 September 2020 14:02

To

Subject: Bloc 40 meeting

Hello Mr Dadds

Thank you for meeting with me yesterday.

As per our discussions please now forward me the photographs that you took of the seating at my request, after you had prevented us from taking photographs in the venue. I note that the some of the seating that is now not to be used has been marked with tape to effect social distancing. I also requested a plan of the premises with the seating laid out to demonstrate the location of this. Mr Mellin explained that the area by the DJ booth and the larger horseshoe seating against the entrance wall will be split into two smaller groupings by barriers or screens, which must be in place or the social distancing managed temporarily in a different way to ensure compliance with the regulations when the premises is open to customers next.

I would appreciate an agreed timescale for this work to be completed, along with the screening discussed between the back to back booths. In the meantime these seats are to be used as discussed, and marked with hazard tape. 2m distance is to be maintained between persons seated, in different groups.

Can you also forward the amended risk assessment, taking into account the changes in legislation since the risk assessment that was previously sent, and the comments made by my manager Paul Adams in his letter from Friday last week and the additional matters identified on my visit which were:

- · Toilet use should be controlled to reduce mingling.
- Hand towels should be removed and replaced with disposable hand drying materials
- I would advise that the middle ladies toilet be locked to prevent use and encourage social distancing
- · The men's urial to be taken out of use
- · The men's toilet door to be propped open to reduce hand contact
- Increased cleaning regime for hand contact surfaces such as the toilet door plates and handles
- Supply of sanitiser to toilet entrance/exits.

Could you also please identify what is the seated capacity of the venue is with compliance with the Coronavirus regulations, and what the capacity for the smoking area will be in relation Coronavirus controls.

Please forward the photographs and plan by midday Monday, and the written risk assessment as soon as completed, but by Friday next week at the latest.

The contents of this email will be shared with Essex County Council Public Health Director.

Kind regards

Elaine

Example 19 pg is grid to C. CAPS rest from a Messer William Exemples on the restriction to the control of the c

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From:

Elaine Higgins

Sent:

20 October 2020 16:46

To:

Dave Leonard

Subject:

FW: Bloc 40 meeting

Hi Dave

Please see email sent to Paul as requested.

Elaine

From: Elaine Higgins

Sent: 20 October 2020 11:07

To: Paul Adams <paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Bloc 40 meeting

Hi Paul

Please see two emails I sent, I realised I had the wrong email address on the first but haven't has a reply from either.

Elaine

From: Elaine Higgins

Sent: 06 October 2020 10:59

To

Subject: Bloc 40 meeting

Hello Mr Dadds

Please see my email below. I have realised you may have not received this.

Your early response would be appreciated.

Kind regards

Elaine

Elaine Higgins [PGDip, DMS, BSc (Hors)] CMIOSH, MCIEH, CEnvH, Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner I Principal Environmental Health Officer Brentwood Borough Council [Town Hall | Ingrave Road | Brentwood | Essex |

www.brentwood.gov.uk

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Sent: 25 September 2020 14:02

To

Subject: Bloc 40 meeting

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The contents of this email will be shared with Essex County Council Public Health Director.

Kind regards

Elaine

Elaine Higgins (PGDip DMS BSc (Hons) CMIOSH MCIEH CErtyH Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner I Principal Environmental Health Officer Brentwood Borough Council (Town Half | Ingrave Road | Brentwood | Essex (CM13 8AY)

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From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

08 June 2021 17:06

To:

Ahmet

Subject:

BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ - LAWFUL REQUEST FOR

CCTV RECORDING & TO VIEW OTHER DATA

Mr Melin.

Licensing Act 2003 – Premises Licence Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

On Saturday, 29 May 2021 at about 1.15am, a serious disturbance took place in Bloc 40 that resulted a member of the public being stabbed whist on your premises and further incidents continuing direct outside. Since this incident, Essex Police have applied to review the premises licence. Whilst I have no intention, or desire, to interfere with any ongoing Police investigation into those matters, I am investigating offences under the Licensing Act 2003, which would include noncompliance with licence conditions as well as offences under the various Coronavirus Regulations.

In order for us to investigate fully I would like to undertake a check of compliance with the licence conditions for the period leading up to and at the time of the incident.

### Annex 2 Condition 2 states:

The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system covering the internal and external of the premises which is of evidential quality. It will also cover all entry and exit points enabling full frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open to the public and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings will be kept in an unedited format for a period of not less the 31 days with correct time and date stamping. Recording shall be made available immediately upon lawful request of Essex Police or other Responsible Authority. Download or export of CCTV should be in the native file format with the native player.

Please supply fully recording of all CCTV footage, including any audio files for the period starting at 11.30pm on the 28th May 2021, and ending at 2.00am on the 29th May 2021.

### Annex 2 Condition 3 States:

A plan of the premises identifying the location and direction of CCTV coverage shall be served on Essex Police & the Licensing Authority each time it is altered.

Please can you provide the latest plan of the above or confirm that there is no change to the CCTV on the Plan attached in Annex 4 of the licence.

### Annex 2 Condition 4 States:

The premises will maintain a bound log book for all incidents, accidents and emergencies which shall include the following information; and will be available to Essex Police or other Responsible Authority immediately upon lawful request.

- All crimes reported to the venue.
- All ejections of patrons.
- All refusals of service.
- Any complaints received.
- Seizures of drugs or offensive weapons.
- The full name of any person who has been involved in dealing with any of the above matters.

Please make available for inspection the log book as in the above condition that would cover the period of both the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

#### Annex 2 Condition 6 States:

A bound Door Supervisors register shall be kept. Door Supervisors shall sign to record their start and finish times along with their full name & SIA badge number.

Please make available for inspection the register as in the above condition that would cover the period of both the 28th and 29th May 2021 to demonstrate compliance with this condition.

#### Annex 2 Condition 12 States:

Reasonable and adequate staff training to be carried out and properly documented in relation to:

- Dealing with incidents and prevention of crime and disorder.
- Sale of alcohol (to underage, persons over 18 purchasing for underage, drunks, etc.) prior to being allowed to sell alcohol.

### Annex 2 Condition 13 States:

All training records will be retained for 12 months and made available to Essex Police or other Responsible Authority upon reasonable request.

Please make available for inspection any training records for all staff as in the above condition for the last 12 months to demonstrate compliance with the above conditions.

### Annex 2 Condition 13 States:

The Premises Licence Holder shall have a Dispersal Policy. A copy of which will be made available to Essex Police and Responsible Authority upon request.

Please make available for inspection the Dispersal Policy.

In order for us to investigate these matters in a timely manner we would request that the above is provided to us or where relevant made available for inspection within 24hrs of the time of this email. This would satisfy us on this occasion of any requirement for provision to be immediately upon request.

I am happy to attend the premises at a pre-arranged time or, alternatively, arrangements can be made to receive the above at the Council Offices by emailing <a href="mailto:licensing@brentwood.gov.uk">licensing@brentwood.gov.uk</a>.

Further to the above I would like to make arrangements meet on site the DPS, and to inspect the premises for compliance with the Licensing Act 2003. Again in order to facilitate an effective and timely investigation I would request that this meeting and visit is to take place within 72 hrs.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on

Yours sincerely,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

From:

Louise Bailey

Sent:

11 June 2021 12:41

To:

Dave Leonard

Subject:

Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

Good afternoon,

We are currently taking instructions on your email of 8th June to Mr Ahmet Melin and will revert to you shortly.

Kind regards

Louise Bailey

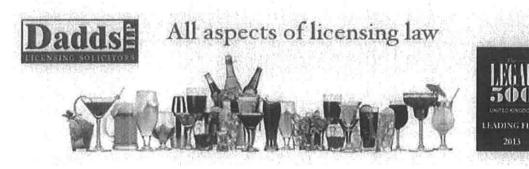
# **Dadds LLP Licensing Solicitors**

Crescent House, 51 High St, Billericay, Essex CM12 9AX

T 01277 631 811 F 01277 631 055 DX 32202 BILLERICAY

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From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

17 June 2021 12:29

To:

Joanne Hall

Subject:

RE: Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

Attachments:

2106\_16 Letter Council.pdf; doc05133220210616153003.pdf; Dave Leonard Brentwood

Authorisation 23MAR20-01SEP20.pdf; Dave Leonard Brentwood Authorisation

01SEP20-01SEP21.pdf

### Dear Mrs Hall,

Thank you for your response and the attached supporting documents.

Firstly, and for clarification, I am an officer authorized since 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 by Brentwood Borough Council, signed by the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer;

To enter premises at any reasonable time subject to relevant statutory provisions.

To collect verbal, visual, photographic and video evidence of suspected contraventions of any relevant Public Health legislation through questioning and observation of people.

And specifically to exercise powers under the following legislation: The Health Protection(Coronavirus, Business Closure)(England) Regulations 2020, or any subsequent similar regulations.

I have previously advised Mr Dadds of my authorisation when challenged at our meeting at BLOC 40 on 24th September 2020, but I have attached copies of my Authorisation for confirmation.

While we still maintain that the request for CCTV already provided is lawful and meets the requirement of the licence condition, I can advise further that we are investigating a Section 136, Licensing Act 2003 offence of Unauthorised Licensable Activities, during the dates and times already provided.

We are well aware of our responsibilities with regards to the handling of evidence and any release into the public domain. This is not a matter that should prevent its release to us, particularly when a Licensing Hearing can be put into private session when it's in the public interest to do so if such evidence was used in that forum. This request has been made in consultation with Essex Police to ensure it will not be of any detriment to any criminal investigation into the assaults that is ongoing.

While it is my view that the conditions of the licence have already been breached by not supplying everything as requested, I would again ask that if the CCTV could be made available by 12.00hrs tomorrow, Friday, 18th June 2021 for collection at the premises, or from your office, it would be appreciated.

I would like to attend the premises at 2pm on the Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 so that I can view the original documents as supplied. I would also like to meet with the DPS, my original request.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on

Kind regards and stay safe,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

T: www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

From: Joanne Hall

Sent: 16 June 2021 16:28

To: Dave Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

Please find attached correspondence and supporting documents with regard to Block 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

Kind regards
Jo Hall
Dadds LLP Solicitors
Crescent House, 51 High St, Billericay, Essex CM12 9AX
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Www.dadds.co.uk

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Mr Dave Leonard Brentwood Borough Council Town Hall Ingrave Road BRENTWOOD Essex CM15 8AY Our Ref: nn/cw/MEL2-7

Your Ref:

16th June 2021

By email only: dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

Dear Mr Leonard

### Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

We write in relation to the above and further to your email to Mr Melin dated 8th June 2021.

We are pleased to note that you have no intention or desire to interfere with the ongoing Police investigation in relation to the incident that took place on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021. However, in relation to your request for CCTV, we would suggest that, in its current format, this is not a lawful request. We note that you say you are investigating offences under the Licensing Act 2003, however, we would ask you to be more specific as to what offence it is you say is alleged to have occurred under the Licensing Act 2003 and the time of this offence. Once we have this information, we can then consider a proper request for CCTV for the time of the alleged offence. The request as it currently stands for the release of CCTV footage from 11.30pm on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021 until 2.00am on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021 for all cameras would equate to the release of 67½ hours' worth of footage which would be an unlawful release of such footage and a breach of data protection.

Furthermore, in any event, the CCTV has been released to Essex Police as part of their investigation into the criminal offences and as a result of our Client's track and trace at the premises, an arrest has been made. We are, however, conscious of the fact that further release of such footage, which could potentially find its way into the public domain, say via appearing within Licensing Sub-Committee papers and therefore appearing online, could jeopardise any criminal investigation and subsequent trial. In this regard, we enclose the case of R v Patrick Lee William Ferneyhough in which it is confirmed in the Crown Court that the release of material into the public domain can amount to an abuse of process with regards to a criminal investigation/trial and that the criminal matter must not be put in jeopardy where there is potential tension between two competing interests.

Dadds Solicitors

Crescent House, 51 High Street, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9AX T: 01277 631811 F: 01277 631055 E: office@dadds.co.uk W: www.dadds.co.uk DX: 32202 BILLERICAY

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We also note that you say you are investigating offences under the various Coronavirus Regulations. However, we would submit that this is not the responsibility of the Licensing department but rather a criminal matter for the Police or a Health and Safety matter for the Public Health Officers.

Turning to the other requests in your email, we enclose the following:

- 1) The CCTV plan which we believe you have in any event
- 2) A copy of the relevant pages from the bound logbook for 28th and 29th May 2021.
- 3) A copy of the door supervisor's sign-in record for 28th and 29th May 2021
- 4) A copy of the staff training records
- 5) A copy of the disbursal policy

So as to assist, we have enclosed copies of these documents with this letter. However, if you would like to inspect the originals of these documents, then please let us know.

In conclusion, our Client is compliant with his premises licence conditions in that all the lawful information has been produced as required, an opportunity to inspect offered and we await hearing from you with regards to a lawful request for CCTV.

Yours sincerely

Dadds

DADDS LLP

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# IN THE CROWN COURT AT CANTERBURY

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T20100514.

The Law Courts, Chaucer Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1ZA.

1st March 2011.

Before:

# HER HONOUR JUDGE A

# REGINA

-v-



(Transcribed from tape by Marten Walsh Cherer Ltd., 1st Floor, Quality House, 6-9 Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1HP. Telephone: 020 7067 2900. Fax: 020 7831 6864. Official Court Reporters and Tape Transcribers).

appeared for the prosecution.

appeared for the defendant Lee.

ppeared for Canterbury City Council.

appeared for Kent Police.

# TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

H

JUDGE You are here on behalf of the Crown A Prosecution Service. : I am, your Honour. JUDGE I have received a skeleton argument from B behalf the City Council. Thank you very much, I have read that, it is very helpful and a statement from Your Honour, I represent the Kent Police Force. C JUDGE Yes, I have read letter with care. Is there anything else you wish to say? Your Honour, in due course I would wish to address you on the steps D already taken by the police force. JUDGE I think you had better do so now. Your Honour, an email has already been sent out to all the force E licensing officers instructing them that in circumstances such as these where there is a review application on foot concurrently with a criminal investigation, that the officer in the case must be informed of the existence of the review application at the earliest F opportunity. The officer in the case is also to be informed that this information, the existence of the review application, must be included on the MG6. Also that the application and all evidence in support must be given to the officer in the case for G inclusion in the case file under unused material. In respect of the information which is given, sent, by the force to the city council and, your Honour, I have no (inaudible) with the law as set out in ... H JUDGE No, indeed, not.

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... the skeleton. Any additional evidence, and this includes the potentially prejudicial stuff (what is called the "accompanying documents", i.e storm (?) reports, crime reports, statements redacted in pocket notebooks) all of that must be submitted to the council in a separate envelope marked "confidential – not for publication", so that there can be no doubt that that material should not, in any event, go onto the website.

Your Honour, all of the licensing officers, as I say, have already been alerted to this and instructed that this is what they must do in future.

The protocol, such as I have outlined it, all of it has been adopted at the next licensing officers meeting, which is a week today on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

There is also a forum called the Kent and Medway Regulatory Licensing Steering Group, which has licensing officers from throughout the county who will also attend at that group as well and in that way, your Honour, I hope you will see that we can be reasonably confident that such an occurrence will not happen again.

Yes, well, thank you very much for helping me. Yes,

Your Honour, I don't want to repeat what is in my skeleton argument, but

can I pass up other documents? This bundle is what went before the council, were

determined, the application so far as the police.

JUDGE

Thank you very much. I think I have received this bundle in another form from the Crown Prosecution Service because, obviously, in the course of the criminal proceedings I wanted to be aware of precisely what information had been given to the city council. On the last occasion (who appears for the prosecution in the criminal proceedings) told me, when he was telling me of the

decision on behalf of the Crown to offer no evidence against two of the defendant, that A whereas the city council - and I accept entirely - had made strenuous efforts to remove the material from the internet, it had in fact gone on to a media website called Kent himself had been able to access that site the night before he was B telling me about it and sufficient material was still on that to be a very considerable cause for concern. Yes, that has been resolved by your Honour. C JUDGE It has. Thank you very much. Your Honour, can I just take you through the documentation very, very quickly? D JUDGE No, not unless you really want to because I am very well aware of this bundle. I found your skeleton argument very helpful indeed and I can see from that that the city council have behaved in a very responsible way once the E problem came to light in taking steps to make sure that such a situation should never occur in the future. Your Honour, if I might make one point and that is this: what it has all F shown is, at the actual hearing the council did put all the (inaudible) information in paper. (Inaudible) members of the public and the press. It is just a shame they did not do that from the outset in terms of publication, so they knew responsibilities, just made G an error, as it were. JUDGE I understand that and such things do occur in the best regulated families. H

|      | the state of the s |
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| A    | Your Honour, on the bright side, like my learned said, there is a protocol   |
|      | between the police and the city council and, hopefully, that will resolve the matters  |
|      | now and in the future.   |
| В    | JUDGE . Yes, thank you very much. I is there anything  |
|      | further you wish to say? I have also received your very helpful skeleton, thank you  |
|      | very much.   |
| С    | Not unless there is something your Honour is concerned about.  |
|      | JUDGE No, I am going to give judgment now on both the abuse of   |
|      | process application and generally in this matter.  |
| D    | Can I just indicate, before your Honour does, that there are other people in   |
|      | court, there is the police sitting over there who dealt with the licensing matters and so  |
|      | they will hear what your Honour has to say. There are also various representatives   |
| TE.  | from the council.  |
| Е    | JUDGE Unlike the subject matter of what we are dealing with, I   |
|      | hope that what I am about to say will have the very widest possible circulation.   |
| TIZ. | Yes, so be it. Thank you very much.  |
| F    | JUDGMENT   |
|      | JUDGE On 5th May 2010 an incident occurred outside the Ocakbasi  |
| C    | Kebab Shop here in Canterbury during which a member of the public,   |
| G    | was injured. He was a passer-by and received a split lip, broken front tooth,  |
|      | a cut to his chin and he had been kicked whilst he was on the ground, so the incident  |
| Н    | itself was not without its seriousness. Six defendants were charged with affray. One   |
| 11   | defendant, was charged with assault occasioning actual bodily  |
|      | harm.  |

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On 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010 all six defendants appeared at this court for plea and case management hearing. Two defendants, and and pleaded guilty to affray. The remaining four defendants pleaded not guilty to all the remaining charges. Directions were given for trial and the case was put into a warned list for 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and a reserved warned list for 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011.

On 12th January 2011 the case was listed for mention and came in front of me.

On behalf of the defendant whom serepresents (namely the case was not ready for trial because inadequate disclosure had been made by the Crown. I gave directions.

On 20<sup>th</sup> January 2011 the case was again listed for mention on behalf of the defendar. Again, full disclosure had not been made. I adjourned the matter to 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011. On 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011 counsel for the prosecution told me that there were some serious concerns because the Canterbury City Council had put some material concerning a licensing application on the internet. He asked for two weeks to deal with disclosure.

By that stage I took the view that my orders for disclosure were not being complied with by the Crown and that there was, further, a potentially serious matter with regards to material getting onto the internet. I ordered that the officer in the case and the disclosure officer, together with the parties, appear before me on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

On 4<sup>th</sup> February 2011 it was confirmed to me by counsel appearing on behalf of the prosecution that disclosure had been made to two out of the four defendants awaiting trial. This had occurred, apparently, because different lawyers had been involved in dealing with secondary disclosure after the filing of Defence Case Statements.

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I was further told by counsel on behalf of two of the defendants that the case papers had been put on to the internet. Prosecuting counsel indicated that they had been removed from the city council's website on 11th January 2011, but that the material had been on the website since the autumn of 2010.

The implications of that information were extremely serious and defence counsel indicated that they would have an abuse of process application.

I gave further directions and adjourned the matter to 21st February of 2011. I told prosecuting counsel that I wanted to know exactly what had been put onto the city council's website.

On 21st February 2011 the prosecution informed me that whilst the material had been removed from the city council's website, some material had got on to a media site entitled Canterbury People and was still available for viewing on that site.

In the light of that position the Crown conceded that two of the defendants, and could not have a fair trial and consequently offered no evidence against them.

I then heard the abuse of process application on behalf of the other two defendants. I ruled that it would amount to an abuse of process for the Crown to proceed against those two defendants and I stayed the indictment. I will give my reasons for that later.

From all the material available to me, it is quite apparent that the police disclosed to the Canterbury City Council the case papers in respect of this case, including the witness statements, the police notebooks and crime reports. The names had been

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redacted from the witness statements, that is apparent, but the redacted statements can easily be identified as pertaining to this incident by reason of the date of the incident and the content of the statements. Unredacted material in relation to earlier incidents at the kebab shop in question were given to the Canterbury City Council and published on their website.

I have received correspondence from Canterbury City Council, the police and the Crown Prosecution Service and today I have received very helpful skeleton arguments on behalf of the city council and on behalf of the Crown Prosecution Service and I have heard some oral submissions.

The protection of criminal proceedings against interference by the publication of material which might prejudice such proceedings is governed by the Contempt of Court Act 1981. Section 1 states: "In this Act 'the strict liability' rule means the rule of law whereby conduct may be treated as a contempt of court as tending to interfere with the course of justice in particular legal proceedings regardless of intent to do so."

By section 2 the strict liability rule applies only in relation to publication and for this purpose publications include any speech, writing, programme, including a programme service, or other communication in whatsoever form which is available to the public at large or any section of the public.

By subsection (2): "The strict liability rule applies only to a public which creates a substantial risk that the course of justice in the proceedings in question will be seriously impeded or prejudiced."

The rule used to, with good reason, in my judgment, be referred as the sub judice rule.

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The situation which has arisen here is very, very unfortunate indeed. The court can well appreciate that it is desirable that licensing applications and reviews of licences should not be held up awaiting the outcome of criminal proceedings. That does not mean that criminal proceedings should be put in jeopardy by the police supplying information which includes all the case papers in the criminal proceedings, knowing that those papers may get into the public domain.

It there is a tension between the two competing interests, the criminal trial must not be put in jeopardy.

There must have been communication between the officer in the case and the officer dealing with the licensing application. I have not been told what that communication was.

I find the response that I have received on behalf of the Chief Constable, whilst I appreciate that it is an explanation only, less than satisfactory.

It is deeply ironic that whilst the police were failing to discharge their obligations in relation to disclosure in the criminal proceedings so that no less than three mention hearings were necessary at this court, at the same time they were supplying to the city council all the case papers and many of the matters of disclosure that were being sought by the defence.

The response I have received from the city council is most responsible. It acknowledges that things went badly wrong and assures me that steps are being put in place to ensure that the situation does not arise again.

It is quite apparent from the response that I have received that material stayed on the city council's website from 13th October 2010 to 20th of January 2011.

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I have heard submissions today on behalf of the Chief Constable which seek to assure me that steps are being put in place by the police which will ensure that the situation does not occur again.

I have received a letter from the Crown Prosecution Service indicating that the error of disclosing some material to some defendants and not to others must never be repeated and steps have been put in place to ensure that that will not be repeated.

The Crown decided to offer no further evidence against because, in my judgment, they recognise the publication of the material on the internet meant that those two defendants could not have a fair trial because (1) the publication of a number of earlier incidents relating to the kebab shop would have had a prejudicial effect upon their defence cases; (2) the publication of the witness statements and officers' notebooks might have led to the publication of inadmissible material and certainly should not have been available for potential jurors to read; and (3) no question could have been asked of potential jurors that would cure the problem that had been created.

In my judgment it is impossible now to say that the other two defendants, and and an area a fair trial. Their defence is that they were acting in lawful self-defence from violence directed at them by the staff of the kebab shop. Once a jury were told that the Crown had offered no evidence against two members of staff at the kebab shop, even if the jury were told that two further members of staff at the kebab shop had pleaded guilty, then that would, in my judgment, prejudice the defences of and and the found it impossible to understand why the Crown had offered no evidence against two defendants who were visible on CCTV engaged in fighting and yet the Crown were

inadmissible material and prejudicial material was there for potential jurors to view. I consequently stay the indictment against Lee and Ferneyhough as an abuse of process. B I have taken some time set out this sorry tale in the hope that what has happened in this case will never happen again. The police need to look very carefully indeed at their procedures. I am satisfied that the city council has already taken steps to ensure C that their procedures never allow this to occur again. I am satisfied that the Crown Prosecution Service have taken steps to ensure that the evidence in disclosure that took place in this case will never take place again. D That is all I wish to say about this matter. Thank you all very much for your assistance in this matter. I am sorry, I was not ignoring you. Thank you very much for being E here. I take it you have nothing further to say? Absolutely nothing. As far as the two that have pleaded guilty, will your Honour ... F JUDGE I reserve the sentencing of them to myself, obviously. I am going to say that it should take place one day next week, if at all possible. If your clerk can liaise with list office and defence counsel, then we can organise it for as soon as G possible. Thank you very much. JUDGE Thank you all very much.

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offering no evidence against them, quite apart from the fact that the possibility of

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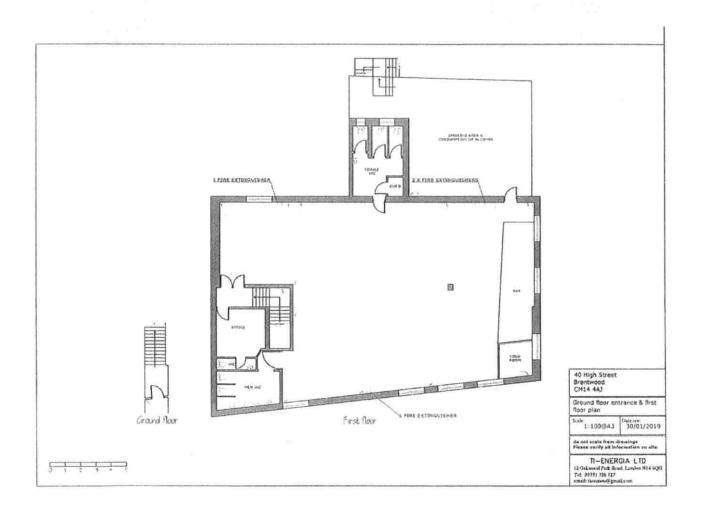
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## Dispersal Procedure

- Door staff shall periodically patrol the curtilage of the premises throughout the evening and at closing time to encourage patrons to move away from the venue and disperse from the area.
- The premises shall reduce the volume of music and increase the lighting for the
  last half hour prior to the bar closing; this can be done gradually so that by the time
  the bar closes, the music volume is reduced to background levels and the premises is
  fully illuminated.
- 3. Staff will be trained to ask customers to leave quietly and respect our neighbours.
- 4. Signage will be put in place to inform persons that they are required to leave the premises quietly and respect our neighbours; service will be refused to those who do not follow these instructions.
- 5. Persons who do not behave or adhere to the standards set out in this policy will be refused service in the future.
- CCTV monitoring is in place outside the premises for the effective monitoring of customers. The Management will regularly review the CCTV images to ensure this procedure is being adhered to.
- 7. Appropriate lighting levels will be maintained outside the premises to ensure the CCTV is effective.
- Patrons will be directed to use a designated smoking area at all times when smoking. Failure to do so will result in service being refused.
- 9. There will be encouragement of gradual dispersal during the last period of trading and during the drinking-up period with staff reminding customers of the need to leave quietly and consider local residents when leaving the premises and the surrounding area.

# Staff Training



As incidents must be recorded. Where an incident may lead to further action, for example an accident or injury to a customer or team member it is crucial that any Company incident reporting procedure is followed in full, that all relevant details are recorded, and CCTV retained at site to assist investigation.

Where there are no incidents on any date please ensure that the log clearly shows that this is the case and that it is not left blank

| Time          | Type of<br>incident | Duteils & Action Taken<br>(Side 4 policy) are painted safeth  | Name /<br>Badge No.  | Signature | Reported |
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| Refusals at door:<br>Drunk:  |   |           |      |
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| in aid the armen of door reason duty.  |   |           |      |
| 111111111111111111111111111111111111111  |   |           |      |



The name of the authorised officer: Dave Leonard

The date of commencement of the officer's authorisation: 23/03/2020 The date of termination of the officers authorisation: 01/09/2020

## List of powers and legislation for which the above named officer is authorized:

To enter premises at any reasonable time subject to relevant statutory provisions.

To collect verbal, visual, photographic and video evidence of suspected contraventions of any relevant Public Health legislation through questioning and observation of people.

And specifically to exercise powers under the following legislation: The Health Protection(Coronavirus, Business Closure)(England) Regulations 2020

Signed On Behalf Of Brentwood Borough Council



Amanda Julian

Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer



The name of the authorised officer: Dave Leonard

The date of commencement of the officer's authorisation: 01/09/2020The date of termination of the officers authorisation: 01/09/2021

## List of powers and legislation for which the above named officer is authorized:

To enter premises at any reasonable time subject to relevant statutory provisions.

To collect verbal, visual, photographic and video evidence of suspected contraventions of any relevant Public Health legislation through questioning and observation of people.

And specifically to exercise powers under the following legislation: The Health Protection(Coronavirus, Restrictions)(England) Regulations 2020, or any subsequent similar regulations.

Signed On Behalf Of Brentwood Borough Council



Amanda Julian

Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

From:

Joanne Hall

Sent:

18 June 2021 14:24

To:

Dave Leonard

Subject:

RE: Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

Thank you for your email we will revert in due course

From: Dave Leonard [mailto:dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk]

Sent: 17 June 2021 12:29

To: Joanne Hall

Subject: RE: Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Beware – This email originated outside Dadds LLP and may be malicious Please take extra care with any links, attachments, requests to take action or for you to verify your password etc. Please note there have been reports of emails purporting to be about Covid 19 being used as cover for scams so extra vigilance is required.

Dear Mrs Hall,

Thank you for your response and the attached supporting documents.

Firstly, and for clarification, I am an officer authorized since 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 by Brentwood Borough Council, signed by the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer;

To enter premises at any reasonable time subject to relevant statutory provisions.

To collect verbal, visual, photographic and video evidence of suspected contraventions of any relevant Public Health legislation through questioning and observation of people.

And specifically to exercise powers under the following legislation: The Health Protection(Coronavirus, Business Closure)(England) Regulations 2020, or any subsequent similar regulations.

I have previously advised Mr Dadds of my authorisation when challenged at our meeting at BLOC 40 on 24th September 2020, but I have attached copies of my Authorisation for confirmation.

While we still maintain that the request for CCTV already provided is lawful and meets the requirement of the licence condition, I can advise further that we are investigating a Section 136, Licensing Act 2003 offence of Unauthorised Licensable Activities, during the dates and times already provided.

We are well aware of our responsibilities with regards to the handling of evidence and any release into the public domain. This is not a matter that should prevent its release to us, particularly when a Licensing Hearing can be put into private session when it's in the public interest to do so if such evidence was used in that forum. This request has been made in consultation with Essex Police to ensure it will not be of any detriment to any criminal investigation into the assaults that is ongoing.

While it is my view that the conditions of the licence have already been breached by not supplying everything as requested, I would again ask that if the CCTV could be made available by 12.00hrs tomorrow, Friday, 18th June 2021 for collection at the premises, or from your office, it would be appreciated.

I would like to attend the premises at 2pm on the Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 so that I can view the original documents as supplied. I would also like to meet with the DPS, my original request.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on

Kind regards and stay safe,

Cedioleanant

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

From: Joanne Hall

Sent: 16 June 2021 16:28

To: Dave Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

Please find attached correspondence and supporting documents with regard to Block 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

Kind regards
Jo Hall
Dadds LLP Solicitors
Crescent House, 51 High St, Billericay, Essex CM12 9AX
T 01277 631 811 F 01277 631 055 DX 32202 BILLERICAY

W www.dadds.co.uk

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From:

Paul Adams

Sent:

16 December 2021 17:22

To:

Cc:

office@dadds.co.uk; Dave Leonard;

Subject:

Bloc 40 -Licence visit follow up 10/12/21.

Dear Mr Melin,

Further to the visit to your premises on the 10 December 2021 at approximately 21:15hrs by Dave Leonard and myself from Brentwood Council Licensing from Essex Police Licensing and and his colleague from the SIA, I write to follow up on the visit.

In order for us to investigate further the non-compliance of a number of the licence conditions, I would like to request that in line with Condition 1 of Annex 2, that a download of the CCTV Recordings for the following are provided over the operational period starting Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 moving into Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021:

- Footage for the duration that the premises was open, from all cameras that would show all searches being carried out in line with Conditions 7 and or 11 of Annex 3 of the licence.
- Footage for the duration that the premises was open, from all cameras that would show the use or non-use
  of the Clubscan/IDSCAN system as required in Condition 6 of Annex 3 of the licence.
- Footage from all cameras that would show images of the outside terrace area, for the hours of 22.30hrs 10/12/21 to 23:59hrs 10/12/21
- Footage from all cameras that show all areas of the function space/bar areas from 21:00hrs 10/12/21 until 22:00hrs 11/12/21.
- Footage from all cameras that show all areas of the function space/bar areas from 01:00hrs 11/12/21 until 02:40hrs 11/12/21.

If you please email <u>licensing@brentwood.gov.uk</u> once the footage is ready for collection, arrangements can then be made for an officer to collect. If the footage can be made ready for collection by the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021, this will satisfy the immediately upon request element of Condition 1 of Annex 2.

I have copied in Dadds, LLP as per your request.

Paul Adams | Licensing Manager

www.brentwood.gov.uk

paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk



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From:

Paul Adams

Sent:

12 January 2022 11:36

To:

; office@dadds.co.uk Dave Leonard; Licensing

Cc: Subject:

FW: Bloc 40

Attachments:

Bloc 40 -Licence visit follow up 10/12/21.

Dear Sirs.

Despite my request on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 for CCTV footage to be provided for collection (copy attached) and my response to the email to David Dadds on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022, as below I have still not been advised that the CCTV is ready for collection.

As no CCTV has been provided as per my request, I will now consider this as not complying with the condition attached to the licence and will include this as part of my consideration of the other matters identified at the time of our visit on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

I will be in further communication in relation to these matters, but still would like to receive the requested CCTV at the earliest opportunity.

Many Thanks

Paul Adams | Licensing Manager

www.brentwood.gov.uk | paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk

From: Paul Adams <paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 January 2022 16:00

To: David Dadds

office@dadds.co.uk

Subject: Re: Bloc 40

Hi David,

I can give you a call tomorrow some time re the premises. Please let me know when is best and I will try to accommodate. I would like to make arrangements for the collection of the CCTV as requested. Could you please advise when this can be made available for collection during office hours this week, please?

Many thanks

Paul Adams

From: David Dadds

Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2021 3:03:47 PM
To: Paul Adams cpaul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk

Subject: Bloc 40

Dear Paul,

Are you able to telephone me regarding the above premises. Whilst writing I confirm the CCTV is available for viewing at your convenience.

Kind regards

#### **David Dadds**

## Dadds LLP Licensing Solicitors

Crescent House, 51 High St, Billericay, Essex CM12 9AX T 01277 631 811 F 01277 631 055 DX 32202 BILLERICAY

W www.dadds.co.uk

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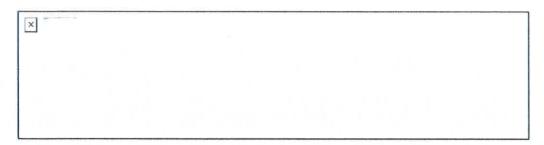
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From:

Paul Adams

Sent:

27 January 2022 13:39

To:

Natasha Nunn

Cc:

Subject:

Re: Re Bloc 40

Hi Natasha.

I have been off sick too and am only back this week so apologies for the delay my end in replying to this.

Dave Leonard

Could we please collect from Bloc 40 tomorrow. I will ask one of our officers to attend at 14:00 to collect.

Many Thanks

Paul Adams

From: Natasha Nunn

Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 10:53:03 AM

To: Paul Adams <paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: Re Bloc 40

Dear Paul

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you, David thought that he had replied.

We do have the CCTV ready for you so please let me know how you would like to receive this - would you like it posted or to collect it?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

#### Natasha Nunn

## Dadds LLP Licensing Solicitors

Crescent House, 51 High St, Billericay, Essex CM12 9AX

T 01277 631 811 F 01277 631 055 DX 32202 BILLERICAY

W www.dadds.co.uk

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From:

Paul Adams

Sent:

27 January 2022 13:45

To:

office@dadds.co.uk

Cc: Subject: Dave Leonard FW: Re Bloc 40

Forward as Natasha is away from the office.

Please see below.

## Paul Adams | Licensing Manager

www.brentwood.gov.uk |

paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk

From: Paul Adams <paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk>

Sent: 27 January 2022 13:39

To: Natasha Nunn

Cc:

Dave

Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Re Bloc 40

Hi Natasha,

I have been off sick too and am only back this week so apologies for the delay my end in replying to this.

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Many Thanks

Paul Adams

From: Natasha Nunn

Sent: Friday, January 14, 2022 10:53:03 AM

To: Paul Adams 
paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk

Subject: Re Bloc 40

Dear Paul

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

#### Natasha Nunn

## **Dadds LLP Licensing Solicitors**

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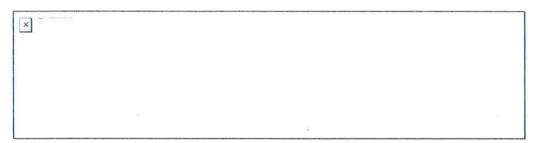
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From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

03 August 2023 19:02

To:

Licensing

Cc:

Paul Adams

Subject:

BLOC 40 - APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE - LICENSING REPRESENTATION

(DAVE LEONARD)(3) - APPENDIX 2

Attachments:

APPENDIX 2 - BLOC 40 - 17JUL23 -1.jpg; APPENDIX 2 - BLOC 40 - 17JUL23 -2.jpg; APPENDIX 2 -

BLOC 40 - 17JUL23.jpg; APPENDIX 2 - BLOC 40 - 10JUL23.jpg; APPENDIX 2 - BLOC 40 - 14JUL23 -1.jpg; APPENDIX 2 - BLOC 40 - 14JUL23 -2.jpg; APPENDIX 2 - BLOC 40 - 14JUL23 -3.jpg; BLOC

40 - APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE - PUBLIC NOTICE WARNING

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

Licensing Act 2003 – Application to Review a Premises Licence Bloc 40, first Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

## Representation by a Responsible Authority (Licensing)

I wish to make a representation in support of the application by the Chief of Essex Police to review the premises licence at *Bloc 40*, *First Floor*, *40 High Street*, *Brentwood CM14 4AJ*.

I make this representation as a Responsible Authority (Licensing) in my capacity as the Brentwood Borough Council Licensing Officer as permitted by virtue of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended).

Please find attached Appendix 2 files in support of my representation.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on 01277 312523.

Kind regards,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

T: | www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

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We will use your information to provide the service requested. We may share your personal data between our services and with partner organisations, such as other local authorities, strategic partnerships, government bodies and the police. We will do so when it is of benefit to you, is required by law, or to prevent or detect fraud. To find out more, go to www.brentwood.gov.uk/privacy - new.rochford.gov.uk/data-protection.

Bloc 40 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023



Bloc 40 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023



Bloc 40 14th July 2023

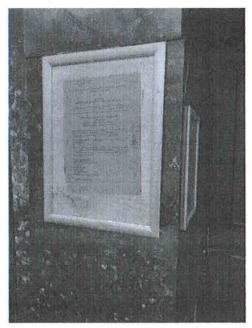


Bloc 40 14th July 2023





Bloc 40 17th July 2023



From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

17 July 2023 18:28

To:

Ahmet

Subject:

BLOC 40 - APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE - PUBLIC NOTICE WARNING

#### Dear Mr Melin,

As in accordance with The Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licences and club premises certificates) Regulations 2005, The Licensing Authority must advertise an application for review by displaying prominently a notice which is of a prescribed size, and which must be of a pale blue colour, at, on or near the site of the premises to which the application relates where it can conveniently be read from the exterior of the premises by the public.

Officers from the licensing Authority now have placed on two occasions such notice in a position that meets the regulations. After the notices have been affixed, on both occasions they have been removed by the premises and placed in an advertisement frame that has a yellow perspex covering, which changes the appearance of the colour of the required pale blue form. By moving the notice into the advertising frame, it also makes the notice no longer prominent.

It is not the responsibility of the premises management to move or alter the statutory notice. This notice must not be moved, altered, defaced, or covered in any way. This notice is placed under the authorisation of the Licensing Act 2003 and enforcement action will be considered should there be any further issues. The interference with the statutory notice may also form part of any representation that the Licensing Authority may submit in relation to this review.

Should you require any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact the Licensing Office on 01277 312500.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

T: 01277 312500 | www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

03 August 2023 19:03

To:

Licensing

Cc:

Paul Adams

Subject:

BLOC 40 - APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE - LICENSING REPRESENTATION

(DAVE LEONARD)(4) - APPENDIX 3

Attachments:

- Withdrawing Consent to Be DPS at BLOC 40, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD

Re: CM14 4AJ

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

Licensing Act 2003 – Application to Review a Premises Licence Bloc 40, first Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

## Representation by a Responsible Authority (Licensing)

I wish to make a representation in support of the application by the Chief of Essex Police to review the premises licence at *Bloc 40*, *First Floor*, *40 High Street*, *Brentwood CM14 4AJ*.

I make this representation as a Responsible Authority (Licensing) in my capacity as the Brentwood Borough Council Licensing Officer as permitted by virtue of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended).

Please find attached Appendix 3 files in support of my representation.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on 01277 312523.

Kind regards,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

T: www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk

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Find out more about cost of living support | Rochford Council





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| From:<br>Sent:<br>To:<br>Subject:                            | 20 January 2020 12:40 Dave Leonard Re: - Withdrawing Consent to Be DPS at BLOC 40, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ   |
|--|---|
| Hi Dave<br>Yes I have notified a<br>He has replied as w<br>X |   |
| Sent from my iPhor   | ne  |
| > On 20 Jan 2020, a<br>><br>> Hi                             | nt 11:32, Dave Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk> wrote:</dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>   |
|  | ice has received your written notification withdrawing your consent to be the designated r at Bloc 40 with immediate effect.  |
| >  | onfirm whether or not you have notified the management at Bloc 40 of your decision. Thank you. further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office at Brentwood 7 312523. |
| > Kind regards,  |   |
| > Da   | censing Officer<br>  www.brentwood.gov.uk   dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk   |
| >  |   |
|  |   |
| > Subject  |   |
| > Hi Dave  |   |
|  | th January 2020  w my personal licence of being the dps at bloc 40 Brentwood With immediate effect Can you this has been accepted as my withdrawal.   |
| > Wally thanks   |   |
| >  | <del></del>   |
|  | igh Council, Town Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, Essex. CM15 8AY. This email (including any ended only for the recipient(s) named above. It may contain restricted or privileged information          |

and should not be read, copied or otherwise used by any other person unless express permission is given. If you are

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> We will use your information to provide the service requested. We may share your personal data between our services and with partner organisations, such as government bodies and the police. We will do so when it is of benefit to you, or required by law, or to prevent or detect fraud. To find out more, go to www.brentwood.gov.uk/privacy.

From:

Dave Leonard

Sent:

03 August 2023 19:04

To:

Licensing

Cc:

Paul Adams

Subject:

BLOC 40 - APPLICATION TO REVIEW A PREMISES LICENCE - LICENSING REPRESENTATION

(DAVE LEONARD)(5) - APPENDIX 4

Attachments:

APPENDIX 4 - Warning Notice - BLOC 40 request 04SEP20.docx; APPENDIX 4 - Warning Notice -

BLOC 40 warning letter 22MAY19.docx; RE: BLOC 40 - THE HEALTH PROTECTION

(CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTION) (ALL TIERS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2020; RE: Block 40,

Brentwood; APPENDIX 4 - BLOC 40 - warning letter 22MAY19.pdf

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

Licensing Act 2003 – Application to Review a Premises Licence Bloc 40, first Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

## Representation by a Responsible Authority (Licensing)

I wish to make a representation in support of the application by the Chief of Essex Police to review the premises licence at *Bloc 40*, *First Floor*, *40 High Street*, *Brentwood CM14 4AJ*.

I make this representation as a Responsible Authority (Licensing) in my capacity as the Brentwood Borough Council Licensing Officer as permitted by virtue of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended).

Please find attached Appendix 4 files in support of my representation.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office on 01277 312523.

Kind regards,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

Til

| www.brentwood.gov.uk | dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk





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AA Trading Ltd.

Date:

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019

Contact:

**Dave Leonard** 

Dear Mr Melin,

Licensing Act 2003 – Premises Licence Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

On Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 10.30pm, together with (Essex Police Officer), I met with you to discuss a number of alleged noise nuisance complaints received relating to the management of the premises.

In the Designated Premises Supervisor, was unavailable on the evening and you advised me that she has other business interests and can only commit to one night a week at Bloc 40. Also present with us in the managers' office was an apparently experienced personal licence holder, and SIA registered, who you intimated may be the suitable replacement for We discussed in detail the operating schedule of the premises and the conditions attached in Annex 2 to the licence.

I am aware of the current application for a minor variation to the licence in relation to change of the premises plan and I trust that this is a matter that you will seek to resolve with the Environmental Health Team as a matter of urgency.

As a result of this inspection, it was determined that you are not compliant with the following Conditions in Annex 2;

- (6) A bound Door Supervisors register shall be kept. Door Supervisors shall sign to record their start and finish times along with their full name & SIA badge number.
- (9) The management will operate the Essex Police 'Procedures for the Management of Illicit Drugs in Licensed Premises'
- (13) All training records will be retained for 12 months and made available to Essex Police or other Responsible Authority upon reasonable request.
- (16) Notices shall be prominently displayed at all exits requesting patrons to leave quietly.

Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8AY Tel: 01277 312 500 Fax: 01277 312 743 Minicom: 01277 312 809 www.brentwood.gov.uk

- (17) Clear and legible notices shall be prominently displayed in, and at the entrance to any outside licensed area requesting customers to use the area quietly.
- (22) A noise limiter shall be fitted and set to the satisfaction of Environmental Health Services. The level of the noise limiter shall be set with the rear fire exit door open and monitored at the nearest residential noise sensitive premises.
- (24) The External area shall be monitored by a member of staff with the purpose of controlling noise from customers and ensuring public safety.

It was also determined that you are not compliant with Condition 4 in Annex 3;

(4) Noise at the premises limited after 11pm to a decibel level to be agreed with Environmental Health Department of the Council. A noise limiter shall be fitted and set to the satisfaction of Environmental Health Services. The level of the noise limiter shall be set with the rear fire exit door open and monitored at the nearest residential noise sensitive premises.

These breaches of the premises licence conditions are easily remedied and you readily undertook to resolve this issue as a matter of priority.

We also had a positive conversation relating to how you and your staff could manage the dispersal of customers during the course and at the end of the evening to reduce noise disruption in and around the local vicinity.

However, we continue to receive public nuisance noise complaints, particularly at weekends, that implies that you may be failing to comply with Annex 2 Condition 22;

(22) A noise limiter shall be fitted and set to the satisfaction of Environmental Health Services. The level of the noise limiter shall be set with the rear fire exit door open and monitored at the nearest residential noise sensitive premises.

and Annex 3 Condition 4 of your licence;

(4) Noise at the premises limited after 11pm to a decibel level to be agreed with Environmental Health Department of the Council. A noise limiter shall be fitted and set to the satisfaction of Environmental Health Services. The level of the noise limiter shall be set with the rear fire exit door open and monitored at the nearest residential noise sensitive premises.

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Both the Environmental Health Team and I are in regular contact with the residents and will continue to monitor this situation. Please ensure that you take note of the above information and act upon it immediately. Further action may follow without further warning should the terms and conditions of your premises licence continue to be breached.

The conduct of any unlicensed activity may result upon conviction of an unlimited fine and/or 6 Months Imprisonment.

If in doubt about your rights and responsibilities you may contact your legal advisor or this office, where any questions can be answered.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office at Brentwood Town Hall on

Yours Sincerely,

Dave Leonard Licensing Officer



AA Trading Ltd.

Date:

4 September 2020

Contact:

**Dave Leonard** 

Dear Mr Melin,

Licensing Act 2003 – Premises Licence Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

On Thursday, 3 September 2020 at 1.45pm, together with Licensing Manager Paul Adams, I met with you to advise of concerns being reported by members of the public suggesting that there is a recurring failure to comply with, or respect, the social distancing guidance during this current pandemic by the management of the premises.

The simplest way to dispel these claims, and so allay our concerns, was to view the CCTV coverage in accordance with Annex 2 condition 1 of the premises licence:

The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system covering the internal and external of the premises which is of evidential quality. It will also cover all entry and exit points enabling full frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open to the public and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings will be kept in an unedited format for a period of not less the 31 days with correct time and date stamping. Recording shall be made available immediately upon lawful request of Essex Police or other Responsible Authority. Download or export of CCTV should be in the native file format with the native player.

You advised us that you are currently experiencing difficulties with the CCTV system and that you were unable to comply with our request at the time. However, you did explain that an engineer was due to visit and resolve the issue later that afternoon.

I have received a further enquiry today claiming that Bloc 40 was packed to capacity on both Saturday and Sunday evening (29th & 30th August), where no safety masks were being used, no temperature checks were being taken, social bubbles were not being respected, very little table service was being offered with most people were being served at the bar and that the DJs hyping up the customers and encouraging them to dance, again, with no attention to social distancing.

Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8AY Tel: 01277 312 500 Fax: 01277 312 743 Minicom: 01277 312 809 www.brentwood.gov.uk In order that I may allay the concerns that have been raised, and at the same time vindicate you, please provide this office with;

- 1. A copy of your COVID-19 risk assessment detailing all the measures that you have taken to safely re-open the premises, and
- In accordance with Annex 2, condition 1 of the premises licence, I request a copy of the CCTV coverage inside the premises between 10.30pm and midnight on both Saturday 29 August and Sunday 30 August.

Please advise this office when the CCTV recording is ready for collection.

If you are in any doubt as to your obligations under the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020 please see the attached online link or speak with your legal advisor.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/restaurants-offering-takeaway-or-delivery

It was also noted that we had difficulties identifying members of your SIA door staff who were working at the weekend. I remind you the following Condition in Annex 2;

(6) A bound Door Supervisors register shall be kept. Door Supervisors shall sign to record their start and finish times along with their full name & SIA badge number.

This has since matter has since been resolved with subsequently providing the information required.

at LPS Security

We also had a positive conversation relating to how you and your staff could manage the dispersal of customers during the course and at the end of the evening to reduce noise disruption in and around the local vicinity.

Please ensure that you take note of the above information and act upon it immediately. Further action may follow without further warning should the terms and conditions of your premises licence continue to be breached.

# The conduct of any unlicensed activity may result upon conviction of an unlimited fine and/or 6 Months Imprisonment.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me in the Licensing Office at Brentwood Town Hall on **01277 312523**.

Yours Sincerely.

Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8AY Tel: 01277 312 500 Fax: 01277 312 743 Minicom: 01277 312 809 www.brentwood.gov.uk

Cedioloung

Dave Leonard Licensing Officer

From:

Paul Adams

Sent:

29 October 2020 16:39

To:

- Director, Legal & Assurance;

Cc:

- Public Health Consultant; Dave Leonard; Licensing

Subject:

RE: Block 40, Brentwood

Importance:

High

Good afternoon Mr Melin,

I write following this communication from Public Health and our visit to your premises with Essex Police on the 24th October 2020, to provide you with the advice in relation to what was discussed and observed.

At the time of our visit the premises was open and trading but only had approximately 15 – 20 customers inside spread over 3- 4 tables. The customer base did in its appearance look to be of mixed households.

On speaking with you regrading what reasonable steps you are undertaking to ensure that the groups meet the requirements of the regulations, you advised that you are asking them to sign a declaration that they are from the same household, and you provided access to the sheets that had been signed for that day, but you are not challenging the group makeup if the group appearance would give reason to doubt that the information they have provided.

Under The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Obligations of Undertakings) (England)
Regulations 2020 you are required to take all reasonable measures to ensure that no bookings for are accepted for a group of two or more persons, where the group is to be located indoors, unless one of the exceptions applies. You are also required to take all reasonable measures to ensure that no persons are admitted to the premises in a group of two or more persons, where the group is to be located indoors, unless one of the exceptions applies.

We would recommend that the reasonable steps to ensure compliance with the regulations may include:

- Asking customers on booking and entry to confirm that all persons attending in their group live in the same household / from a support bubble.
- Advising customers on booking that you may ask for proof of address on entry, and to ask them to have documentation to demonstrate their address available if requested.
- Where you have reason to think that the group may not be from the same household/support bubble, to ask to see some proof of address.

You wasn't sure if the ID scanning system installed at the front of the premises was being used, while it's not a condition of your licence to operate this system, your usual operating policy does see it used on every trading period and would be a easy way of checking the makeup of groups entering the premises.

We did observe two male customers from one table move across and join another group of three females at their table. It was only when the Police officer pointed out what had happened did you intervene, and no other staff present had made any attempt to do so before that.

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Obligations of Undertakings) (England) Regulations 2020 which requires that you must take all reasonable measures to ensure that, no person in one qualifying group mingles with any person in another qualifying group.

You need to ensure that staff and management are taking reasonable steps to ensure that mingling/interacting does not take place.

We could observe that staff were wearing face coverings, although for the relatively short period of time we were there and the limited number of customers, we did not observe any customers wearing any face

coverings when moving away from being seated at their tables. Please ensure that customers are require to wear face covering when moving about the premises, unless they are exempt under the regulations.

While our visit to your premises did not assess every aspect of the Regulations, you do have a responsibility to ensure that you are fully compliant at all times with all aspects of them. For the latest information and guidance please visit <a href="https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus</a>

The regulations do provide powers for an Enforcing Authority to take action against the responsible person for offences of non-compliance, which can be dealt with by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice, which starts at £1000 per offence and can rise to £10,000 for further offences. Essex County Council's Director of Public Health also has powers to close premises or give other directions to premises that pose a risk to the Public Health around COVID where necessary.

I hope that the advice and guidance that is provided in this letter will be taken onboard and that your premises does all it can to ensure that it is COVID secure. If you do require any further information or advice please contact us via email at licensing@brentwood.gov.uk.

| Paul Adams   Licensing Manager T   |
|--|
| From: Director, Legal & Assurance Sent: 23 October 2020 20:03 To Cc: Paul Adams < paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk>; - Public Health Consultant |
| Subject: Block 40, Brentwood<br>Importance: High   |

I am writing on behalf of the Director of Public Health for Essex County Council.

Brentwood Borough Council have informed us of a catalogue of breaches of the coronavirus restrictions. I am aware that Brentwood Borough Council have spent a great deal of time and effort explaining what to do, which has clearly fallen upon deaf ears.

On behalf of Essex County Council I am writing to say that we are keeping your premises under review and should there be any evidence that you are allowing the public into your premises in breach of the regulations then it is likely that the County Council will issue a direction requiring your premises to close to the public.

It has the power to do this under the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (No 3) (England) Regulations 2020.

Yours sincerely

Dear Mr Melin

Director, Legal and Assurance Monitoring Officer Corporate and Customer Services Essex County Council

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#### Dominika Jaskolska

From:

Paul Adams

Sent:

18 December 2020 15:15

To:

Dave Leonard

Subject:

RE: BLOC 40 - THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTION) (ALL TIERS)

(ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2020

For info, I have just received a call from Mr Mellin who advises he has no knowledge of the event that is planned at his venue. He assures us that the event is not taking place and is going to make contact with the promoter to find out what is going on. That prompter is known to him but there has been no agreement for an event to take place.

If your intel team can establish who the promoter is, it may be worth a call to them, but as Mellin is the key holder and is assuring us the event will not take place, we can only take him at his word and monitor on the day.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Paul Adams | Licensing Manager

T: | M

| www.brentwood.gov.uk |

paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk

From: Dave Leonard <dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Sent: 18 December 2020 13:19

To: Paul Adams <paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: BLOC 40 - THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTION) (ALL TIERS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2020

Dear Colleagues,

For your information.

Season's greeting, kind regards and stay safe,

Dave

From: Ahmet Melin

Sent: 18 December 2020 13:17

To: Dave Leonard < dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk > Cc: Paul Adams < paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk >

Subject: Re: BLOC 40 - THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTION) (ALL TIERS) (ENGLAND)

**REGULATIONS 2020** 

We have not advertised any event what so ever for Boxing Day or anyother date in December/ January. I am fully aware of what tier we are in as it has effected my business and staff lives.

#### Get Outlook for iOS

From: Dave Leonard < dave.leonard@brentwood.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, December 18, 2020 1:11:44 PM

To: Ahmet

Cc: Paul Adams <paul.adams@brentwood.gov.uk>

Subject: BLOC 40 - THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTION) (ALL TIERS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS

2020

Dear Mr Melin,

#### Re:- Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood CM14 4AJ

It has come to the attention of Essex Police and Brentwood Borough Council that there is advertising for a Boxing Day Special Event at Bloc 40 on 26 December 2020.

As you should be aware, Brentwood, along with most of Essex and London, is now in Tier 3 High alert and your premises is currently required to be closed except for takeaway subject to the limitations of the regulations.

Any relaxation restrictions being offered to households over the Christmas period does not extend to the hospitality industry allowing it to open.

We are hopeful that the advertising is historic and the event will not be proceeding while under the current restrictions and we would appreciate confirmation from you that this is the case.

For the latest information and guidance please visit https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Whilst it is your responsibility to ensure compliance, if we can assist with the clarification of any of the guidance or regulations then please do not hesitate to contact us. Both Essex Police and Brentwood Council will be monitoring over this period for compliance with the regulations and will if required take appropriate action to ensure compliance.

If you require any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact the Licensing Office on 01277 312500.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Leonard | Licensing Officer

×

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# BLOC 40, FIRST FLOOR, 40 HIGH STREET, BRENTWOOD CM14 4AJ

# APPENDIX 5

**REPRESENTATION** 

Other Persons

Dr Sasha Millwood Mrs Greta Millwood

#### Dominika Jaskolska

From:

Sent:

02 August 2023 20:42

To:

Licensing

Subject:

representation re Bloc 40 23/00015/LAPRE + correspondence

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed

==Name and address of persons making representation==



==Daytime telephone number==

==Name and address of the premises about which a representation is being made==

Bloc 40, First Floor, 40 High Street, Brentwood, CM14 4AJ

==Our representation==

We call for Bloc 40's licence to be revoked. This establishment has a persistent track record of failure to comply with its licensing obligations on multiple fronts, and has already been afforded multiple opportunities to rectify this track record, following complaints from local residents, applications to extend or vary licensing terms, and serious incidents that have necessitated police involvement.

Brentwood Borough Council has shown incredible forbearence in giving second chances to Bloc 40 -- notably, following a stabbing incident in

2021 (which resulted in a summary review of the premises licence with reference 21/00012/LAPRE). Admittedly, there have been some minor

improvements: the noise nuisance has reduced somewhat since then, although it seems that this reduction is primarily by virtue of the Council having, after a two-year delay, managed to insist upon the installation of a noise-limiting device as a condition of the re-opening in August 2021. The fact that Bloc 40 failed to comply with a two-year-old demand until two men were stabbed on their premises is indicative of a wider attitude of contempt towards the licensing objectives, an attitude that appears not to have changed fundamentally.

There have still been plenty of occasions when the noise nuisance has reached unacceptable levels: whilst most of these occasions have been too brief to note systematically in a noise diary, the unpredictable and sporadic nature of these noise intrusions has in itself constituted a material impairment to our right of quiet enjoyment at home of an evening and our capacity to sleep at night. On three recent occasions (20th-21st May overnight, 8th-9th July overnight, 22nd-23rd July overnight), the noise nuisance was both protracted (over an hour) and severe enough as to warrant a complaint to the Council (reference 23/000859/NOIMUS -- complaints included below as an Appendix). Judging by the fireworks of strobe lighting visible when looking out of the north-facing window of our home on those and other occasions, it seems that Bloc 40 has been negligent in fulfilling its obligation to ensure the terrace door remains closed, a condition of its licence.

Unfortunately, recent events have demonstrated that this propensity for negligence is not limited to noise-related issues. In January this year, we were astounded to learn that Bloc 40 had never obtained planning permission to operate as a nightclub. Since we are not in the habit of walking on that part of the High Street any longer, we had failed to spot the notices relating to the retrospective planning application, and were relieved to hear (via the Essex

Live online newspaper) that the Council had refused the application, albeit allowing Bloc 40 to continue in the short term pending a potential appeal.

We were hoping that this would herald an improvement in public safety, such that the entirety of the High Street might once again be a comfortable and safe environment at all times of day and night, and that we would no longer feel the need to avoid the section of the High Street outside Bloc 40 in the evening and at night. I sometimes come back home after 22:00 via the 498 bus, alighting at the Crown Street bus stop, which is in the vicinity of some other licensed premises. Although the immediate vicinity of that bus stop is wont to be boisterous of an evening, I have, in general, felt reasonably safe alighting there. Prior to Bloc 40's establishment, I would feel perfectly comfortable proceeding to my home on Alfred Road via the High Street, St Thomas Road, and the churchyard. In the last couple of years, however, I have opted instead to walk via Crown Street and Coptfold Road, a route that feels much safer than walking past Bloc 40, notwithstanding the fact that two boys were killed on Regency Court (off Crown Street) in October

2021 (I still remember walking past the police cordons and floral tributes in the days that followed that tragedy). I trust and hope that the Council does not intend to wait for a similarly fatal incident to occur at or near Bloc 40 before taking decisive action against that establishment, to ensure that all of the town centre is safe at any time of day or night.

In our representations in response to the summary review in 2021 (reference 21/00012/LAPRE) and the licensing application in 2020 (reference 20/00004/LAPRE), we expressed our concerns that Bloc 40 is placing the safety and tranquility of Brentwood town centre in severe jeopardy, explaining that there have been multiple instances where the noise disturbance was not only a nuisance, but also gave rise to serious concern for what may be happening in or around the premises. We understand from the Essex Live online newspaper (

https://www.essexlive.news/news/essex-news/brentwood-nightclub-bloc40-under-review-8627869

) that the event requiring police attendance on 16th June 2023 involved a large number of children, and that Bloc 40 have been uncooperative with police enquiries. We observe that, at the conclusion of the summary review hearing in 2021 (which one of us attended), Bloc 40 was reprimanded for its lack of co-operation with the Council's Licensing Officer, and are perturbed to hear that this uncooperative attitude is manifesting itself more widely. We are also very perturbed to hear, again from the Essex Live (

https://www.essexlive.news/news/essex-news/pedestrian-hit-car-outside-nightclub-8642815

), that a deliberate hit-and-run collision between a car and a pedestrian took place just outside Bloc 40 in the small hours of 23rd July, one of the occasions when we had complained, earlier in the night, about noise nuisance (in an electronic-mail message dated 22nd July at 23:37).

In view of the number of incidents requiring police attendance and the persistent failures to comply with various licensing and even planning requirements, we consider Bloc 40's premises licence to be untenable.

==Appendix: noise complaints submitted to Brentwood Borough Council in 2023==

On Saturday, 22 July 2023 23:37:30 BST,

> Dear Sir/Madam,

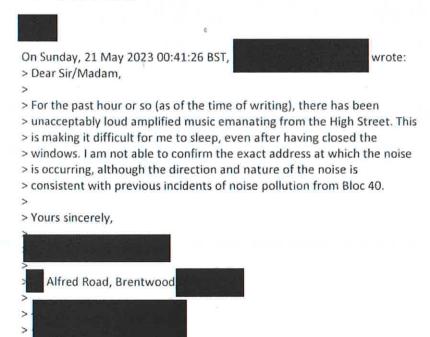
wrote:

- > Dear Sir/ Wadam
- > Despite the rain, I can hear unacceptably loud amplified music
- > emanating from Bloc 40 at present. I noticed it initially about 45
- > minutes ago, and it has been getting louder gradually since then. In
- > the last 5-10 minutes, the noise has become really significant and
- > impossible to ignore, such that it will be difficult for me to get to
- > sleep now. Based on visual observation from the north-facing window in
- > my home, it seems that there is substantial activity on the terrace,
- > including a lot of agitated movement and large plumes of smoke, as
- > well as a lot of strobe lighting visible. This suggests that, yet
- > again, the premises may be leaving the terrace door open (despite the
- > rain!) in breach of licensing conditions.
- > This is the 3rd occasion on which I have found myself submitting a
- > complaint about Bloc 40 in recent months, although there have been

> further occasions in recent months when I have noticed excessive noise > from amplified music or rowdy behaviour, usually for shorter periods > of time. > Yours sincerely, Alfred Road, Brentwood, G > On Saturday, 8 July 2023 22:02:42 BST >> Dear Sir/Madam, >> >> Starting about 10 minutes ago (i.e.: at circa 21:50), there has been >> unacceptably loud amplified music emanating from the High Street, >> almost certainly from Bloc 40. Based on visual observation from the >> north-facing window in my home, it seems that the terrace door for >> Bloc 40 may have been left open (judging by the fireworks of strobe >> lighting I can see upon looking in that direction), in contravention >> of the conditions of its licence. >> >> This noise nuisance is very similar to that about which I complained >> in the small hours of 21st May 2023, to which the reference number >> assigned by you is 23/000859/NOIMUS. >> >> Yours sincerely, >> >> Alfred Road, Brentwood >> >> On 22/05/2023 08:52, hoehpps wrote: >>> Good morning, >>> >>> Thank you for your e-mail. >>> We are sorry you been subjected to this noise disturbance. >>> >>> I confirm this has been passed to an officer for investigation and >>> your reference number is 23/000859/NOIMUS. >>> >>> >>> Dominika Jaskolska | Admin Assistant - Licensing & Environmental >>> Health | Brentwood Borough Council ----- Original Message -----Subject: PS: noise complaint Date: 21/05/2023 01:45 From: To: "Environmental Health -- noise (Brentwood Borough Council)"

#### <envhealth@brentwood.gov.uk>

The noise is still causing serious nuisance and insomnia (with windows closed), and has been doing so consistently since my last message.



#### **Members Interests**

Members of the Council must declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests and the nature of the interest at the beginning of an agenda item and that, on declaring a pecuniary interest, they are required to leave the Chamber.

#### What are pecuniary interests?

A person's pecuniary interests are their business interests (for example their employment trade, profession, contracts, or any company with which they are associated) and wider financial interests they might have (for example trust funds, investments, and asset including land and property).

#### Do I have any disclosable pecuniary interests?

You have a disclosable pecuniary interest if you, your spouse or civil partner, or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner have a disclosable pecuniary interest set out in the Council's Members' Code of Conduct.

### What does having a disclosable pecuniary interest stop me doing?

If you are present at a meeting of your council or authority, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of your authority, and you have a disclosable pecuniary interest relating to any business that is or will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, of if you become aware of your disclosable pecuniary interest during the meeting participate further in any discussion of the business or,
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

#### Other Pecuniary Interests

Other Pecuniary Interests are also set out in the Members' Code of Conduct and apply only to you as a Member.

If you have an Other Pecuniary Interest in an item of business on the agenda then you must disclose that interest and withdraw from the room while that business is being considered

#### Non-Pecuniary Interests

Non –pecuniary interests are set out in the Council's Code of Conduct and apply to you as a Member and also to relevant persons where the decision might reasonably be regarded as affecting their wellbeing.

A 'relevant person' is your spouse or civil partner, or a person you are living with as a spouse or civil partner

If you have a non-pecuniary interest in any business of the Authority and you are present at a meeting of the Authority at which the business is considered, you must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest whether or not such interest is registered on your Register of Interests or for which you have made a pending notification.

# **Licensing Sub-Committees**

To hear and determine applications that do not sit within the scope of delegation to officers, usually where representations have been received either by a third party against grant of a license, or from the applicant against intended refusal or revocation of a license/registration.

The Planning and Licensing Committee has delegated all functions other than relevant policies and fees setting to officers, with the exception of those other matters as indicated below, which are heard by licensing sub-committee unless otherwise indicated:

#### Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005

- (a) Determination of any application type where a representation has been received in accordance with the legislation.
- (b) Determination of applications for review or expedited review.

# Hackney Carriage vehicles and drivers (including enforcement of ranks) and Private Hire vehicles, drivers and operators, with the exception of:

- (a) Suspension or revocation of drivers' licenses (save for initial suspension under provision of Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 S61 (2B) if it appears that the interests of public safety require the suspension to have immediate effect).
- (b) Where representation has been submitted by the applicant/license holder against refusal of any application.
- (c) Where representation has been received from an applicant to vary a licensing or pre-licensing condition.

# **Scrap Metal Dealing**

- (a) Determination of applications where representations have been received against refusal in accordance with legislative requirements; and
- (b) Consideration of revocation of a license where representations have been received in accordance with legislative requirements

#### Street Collections and House to House Collections

(a) Appeals against refusal to grant or renew a license.

# **Licensing of sex establishments**

(a) Determination of all applications, revocations and appeals.

## Street Trading

- (a) Determination of applications where representation(s) has been received.
- (b) Determination of applications that fall outside of current policy.
- (c) Determination of matters relating to revocation of a license.

### Acupuncture, Tattooing, Skin and Ear Piercing and Electrolysis

- (a) Appeals against refusal to grant or renew a registration.
- (b) Revocation of a registration.

### Animal Welfare and Security, except for the following:

- (a) Appeals against refusal to grant or renew a license.
- (b) Revocation of a license.

# Exercise of Powers under Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, except for:

(a) Refusal and revocation of licenses, (other than urgent refusals which are delegated to officers)

#### **Mobile Homes**

(a) Appeals against revocation of a license and/or conditions attached to the grant of a license.