

James Horton

Subject: FW: Back To The 80's - Meeting on 26 July 2023

Importance: High

From: Mike Robinson

Sent: 26 July 2023 22:23

To: Ian Whittaker <[REDACTED]>

Cc: John Ce-Sarz [REDACTED]

Subject: Back To The 80's - Meeting on 26 July 2023

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Dear Ian

I am emailing to confirm outcome of our meeting this afternoon.

As you are aware we met, along with John Cesarz (Inspector – GMP Prevention Hub) to discuss the incident which took place on Monday 24 July 2023 at approximately 03:10hrs, where two members of staff (a bar man and off-duty security staff) who work at the premises seriously assaulted a customer.

The customer had been ejected from the premises, he then walked away and the shutters were closed. The offenders then pursued the victim down Market Street and kicked/punched the victim to the ground, before repeatedly kicking him in the head. One of the offenders was seen to hold the victim down, whilst the other punched/kicked the victim.

The offenders were subsequently arrested and this matter is being dealt with by the Police.

Given the severity of the incident, the Police had given consideration to submit an Expedited Review of the premises licence and seek a suspension of the licence, pending a full review hearing.

The purpose of the meeting this afternoon was to provide you with the opportunity to reassure GMP and the Licensing Authority that the licensing objectives could be promoted, the licence remain unsuspended and avoid the necessity of an Expedited Review – this was to be achieved by agreeing amendments to the licensable hours and/or amendment of the conditions, prior to an ordinary review application (s51 Licensing Act 2003) being submitted by GMP, and it was proposed that the agreement should remain in place until the outcome of the review hearing.

It was initially proposed that the times authorising the sale of alcohol, be reduced to midnight Monday - Sunday and that the number of door staff be increased on each day the premises is open and trading to the public.

You informed myself and John that the premises currently trades Thursday – Sunday and that incidents took place on Thursdays and Sundays as customers drank more at the start and end of the weekend. You said that Friday and Saturday nights were incident free.

Further, you said that reducing the hours to midnight on all nights would result in bankruptcy and would put you out of business. You were advised that the main concern was reaching a position where the public were kept safe.

You said that in response to the incident this week, you had decided to implement a policy that staff members would no longer be permitted to stay and drink alcohol on any premises which you run, after they had completed their shift. You said that this policy would also be adopted by the security company you employ at your premises – Badawed Professional Security.

Following the discussion it was agreed that the following amendments to the way you operate with regards to licensable activities and the condition relating to door staff:

Sale by retail of alcohol

Thursday – Saturday 21:00 – 03:00

Sunday 21:00 – 00:00

Opening Hours

Thursday – Saturday 21:00 – 03:30

Sunday 21:00 – 00:30

Door Staff

A minimum of 3 SIA registered door supervisors shall be employed at the premises on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights from 9.00 pm until 20 minutes after the premises closes. Door supervisors will wear high visibility armbands.

If you remain in agreement with the above, please can you confirm by email as soon as possible to avoid the Police submitting an expedited review.

As advised during the discussion, all available options remain available to the Panel at the review hearing, which they consider to be necessary in order to promote the licensing objectives:-

- Modify the conditions of the licence
- Exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence
- Remove the designated premises supervisor
- Suspend the licence for a period not exceeding 3 months
- Revoke the licence

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Mike

Mike Robinson

Regulatory Services Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement)

Environmental Services (Public Protection)

Operations and Neighbourhoods

Place

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