



MEMORANDUM

To:
Licensing Team
Friargate, Coventry.

Ref:

From:
PC 7136 Healy
West Midlands Police

Ext:

Date:20/09/18

SUBJECT:
Premise License Application – 57 Harnall Lane West

Dear Sir,

RE : LICENSING OBJECTIVE – PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER, PUBLIC NUISANCE and PUBLIC SAFETY

West Midlands Police would like to lodge a formal objection with regards to the premises licence application with regards to 57 Harnall Lane West, Coventry. This location previously held a premises licence which was surrendered in 2013, the premises has been void for some time and not actively trading as a retail outlet. The applicant is seeking a premises licence with off sales of alcohol between 0700hrs – 2130hrs Mon-Sat and 08:00-20:30 on Sundays.

The premise is situated virtually opposite the Harnall Life House which houses some of our most vulnerable members of the community who need support and protection. The Harnall Life House also houses the High Dependency Unit for the treatment and rehabilitation of individuals with severe dependency issues – this unit includes people with alcohol issues. The application for a premises licence directly opposite this unit will mean individuals who are struggling to fight their addiction will have direct access to alcohol products. West Midlands Police feel these vulnerable members of our community need our protection and support, as such we object to this application.

Harnall Lane West also contains residential addresses and is in close proximity to a large residential area made up of a cross section of society with many families residing in the vicinity. The area as a whole is mainly terraced housing with limited roadside parking. There is concern that the opening of an off-licence will increase issues of parking and increase public nuisance. The area is acknowledged as a repeat demand location due to its high level of calls for service which largely relate to disorder and ASB.

Since the beginning of the year there have been 284 calls for service to Harnall Lane West which equates to more than one call every day. The driving factor of the logs is crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour and often features individuals under the influence of alcohol.

Currently there is an open ASB non crime for the area of Russell Street North this is within close proximity to the proposed premises and relates to intoxicated people causing disorder or nuisance to residents. There have been previous non crimes mirroring this within Harnall Lane West. We feel that the granting of a premises licence within this area will exacerbate the current situation and increase disorder and nuisance for the local community who are already suffering from this type of behaviour.

From a police perspective the area suffers from violence and disorder which is often alcohol or drug related, there is also a high proportion of ASB with large groups gathering causing noise

complaints and nuisance for local residents. I believe the granting of this licence will increase these issues for residents and ultimately increase calls for service for West Midlands Police.

The Neighbourhood Sgt for the area shares the above concerns and believes the granting of the licence would impact the community greatly and lead to increased ASB, crime and disorder. PS Morris has submitted a statement expressing these concerns.

It is my opinion that this licence application if granted would be detrimental to the community and impact greatly on the residents alongside causing increased calls for service for West Midlands Police.

Due to this the Police are objecting to the application for a Premise Licence for 57 Harnall Lane West, Coventry.

I would be grateful if the committee would consider these points when dealing with this application. I respectfully submit this report for your attention and consideration.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Healy', written in a cursive style.

PC 7136 Healy
Licensing
Coventry Central Police Station
Little Park Street
Coventry

WITNESS STATEMENT

Crime Number:.....

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5BURN

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Statement of: Asa Robert Morris

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Police Sergeant.....

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it, anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: *AM - Ps 9183 Morris* Date Friday 14th September 18.Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

My name is ASA MORRIS and I am employed by WEST MIDLANDS POLICE (WMP) in the position of FOLESHILL NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPERVISOR. I have held this position for 3 years.

This statement is in relation to the recent licencing application made by Mr AVTAR GILL at 57 HARNALL LANE WEST, FOLESHILL, COVENTRY in a bid for his soon to open property to sell alcohol.

On Tuesday 11th SEPTEMBER 2018 I was made aware by the WEST MIDLANDS POLICE LICENCING DEPARTMENT based in COVENTRY that Mr GILL had made a request for his shop (which is about to open) at 57 HARNALL LANE WEST to sell alcohol. This application was requesting that the shop/off licence was to sell alcohol and trade between the hours of 0700 til 2130 (Monday to Saturday) and 0800 til 2030 (Sunday's).

Upon seeing this application, I checked Google maps and noted the property is immediately opposite the SALVATION ARMY, HARNALL LIFEHOUSE (referred to as HLH in my below statement) where some of the most vulnerable alcohol dependant residents live. Exhibit ARM/1 (attached) shows the proximity of the shop to the HLH.

I have some major concerns in relation to an off licence in such close proximity to the HLH and I outline my concerns below: -

The HLH is my number one location for calls for service on my neighbourhood. It houses over 150 residents both male and female, many of which are alcohol or drugs (or both) dependant and some of the most vulnerable people in our city. Between 1st January 2018 and today (14th September 2018) – (226 days) we (WMP) have been called to HARNALL LANE WEST (vast majority to the HLH) 284 times.

AM - Ps 9183 Morris

These calls have been for a multitude of reasons but in the main for Crime, Disorder and ASB (Anti-Social Behaviour). Many of these calls are to deal with drunk or drinking persons causing issues outside or within the HLH. We currently have an open ASB Non Crime incident open for nearby residential properties in RUSSELL STREET NORTH for drunk people causing disorder near to their properties. We have also had similar Non Crimes for the terraced properties next to the HLH (opposite Mr Gill's property) again for drink related ASB.

Upon doing a quick check of the 284 logs since the turn of the year I have noted 34 closed with a crime number, 45 have been closed under the disorder banner and many others of miscellaneous reasons (i.e we solve the issue without cause to raise a crime number or non-crime).

Re Non Crimes, These are persistent incidents of disorder which may not result in a crime being committed but a pattern of behaviour that we need to have a plan in place to deal with. The idea behind raising a non-crime is that we can update and monitor the issue, make regular recordings of our findings and keep the callers/victims up to date with what we are doing.

The calls for service to the HLH and surrounding streets for their residents is not just felt by the police. I predict that if the Ambulance Service were asked to provide an update they would give a similar amount of calls for service, again many of which will be alcohol related.

The staff at the HLH do their best to tackle and keep the residents in check but sadly once they are drunk the staff are limited to what they can actively do. This normally results in the Police being called.

I am not best placed or hold any medical expertise re the residents within the HLH but I suspect that a large percentage of them are alcohol dependent as I have stated above. On many occasions the police have had cause to remove alcohol from them in a bid to protect them from themselves and safeguard them due to their drunken state.

At present we have no Off licences in close proximity to the HLH and I think this is a good thing for the people that live there. I suspect that at the moment when they run out they can't just nip across the road and buy another bottle or they are in no fit state to walk onto the STONEY STANTON ROAD, HARNALL LANE EAST or to their nearest off licence. I fear that calls for service will increase should alcohol be readily available on their doorstep.

AM - P59183 MORRIS

I note from passing Mr Gill's property on foot and looking on Google maps that it was once an Off Licence (still displays a sign of Sonny's Off Licence). I do not know how long ago that was but chatting to my team it appears it has not been open for some time. Certainly not since the 'new' HLH opened opposite according to my staff that have policed Foleshill for many years.

In Summary,

I do not know Mr Gill, I have never met him or have any issues with him opening a shop across the road from the HLH in a bid to make a living. I do however object to the sale of alcohol in such close proximity to the HLH with the mix of vulnerable alcohol dependent residents that live there.

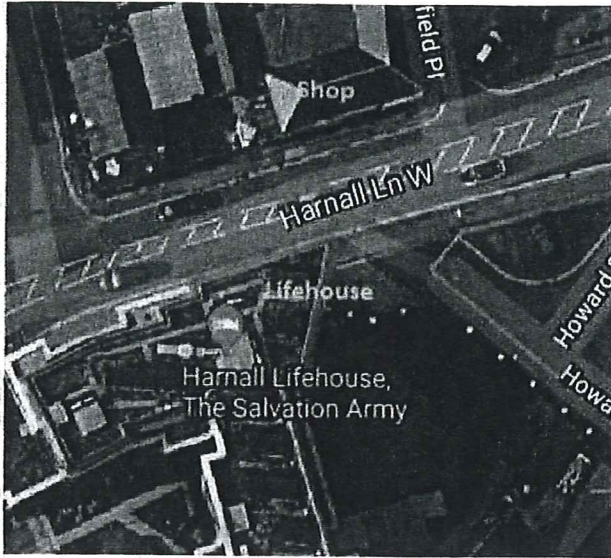
Sgt Asa Morris

Am PS 9183 MORRIS

Am PS 9183 MORRIS

..... Signature:

Signature witnessed by:



The above lift from Google Maps shows the proximity of the shop to the Harnall Lifehouse.



Street View Again shows the shop (yellow sign) and the Harnall Lifehouse opposite.

ARM/1

ARM - ps 9183 Morris