



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

The Licensing Authority

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Engineers Way
Wembley
Middlesex
HA9 0FJ

Brent Borough Licensing Department

Harrow Police Station
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Your ref: Shanzelize

Our ref: 21/2965NW

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Date: 25/02/2022

**Police Licensing comments regarding Brent Council Review of: SHANZELIZE,
11 KILBURN BRIDGE, KILBURN HIGH ROAD, LONDON NW6 6HT**

I acknowledge receipt of an application for the review of under section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 from Brent Council.

On behalf of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, I wish to make a representation, as police believe the following objectives have been undermined, namely the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and the Prevention of Public Nuisance.

Background on venue

The venue is situated on a parade of commercial business premises running alongside a busy main road (which forms part of the A5). Crucially, a gated residential development, Mallard Close, sits directly behind the rear of the Shanzelize premises, accessed off Brondesbury Villas.

Regulated Entertainment

Monday to Sunday – 08:00hrs -00:00hrs

Late Night Refreshments

Monday to Sunday – 23.00hrs – 01.00hrs

Sale or Supply of Alcohol (For consumption on or off the premises)

Monday to Sunday – 08.00hrs – 00:00hrs

Hours Premises is Open to the Public

Monday to Sunday - 08.00hrs – 01.00hrs

Brent Police Licensing support the review of said licence due to the ongoing issues, (including those noted during the Covid pandemic), that demonstrate a disregard for the principles of the premises licence and licensing objectives. The management and venue have continued to flout their responsibilities towards the licensing objective and fail to address a number of key premises licence conditions.

Below is a list of notable issues that have occurred in the past three years or so.

22/02/2019

Made aware of Council letter to Hashem Beik Mohammadi regarding 20 licensing breaches that required addressing. Also mention of complaints over noise issues.

02/03/2019

Notification of licensable activity being conducted at the rear of the premises which is outside the permissible licensable area.

10/04/2019

Threat of enforcement action by Brent Council due to licensable activities being conducted outside the permissible licensed area, outside the front and rear of the premises.

22/05/2019

Invitation to attend an interview with Brent Council to discuss continued lack of adherence to licensable activities after another visit on 12/05/2019 revealed 7 licence condition breaches.

No specific records, for a time due to Coronavirus epidemic.

CAD5974/13DEC2020

Caller reports the premises is open for business despite concerns over Coronavirus lockdown prohibiting such activities. However, the 3 tier system in place would suggest that the venue could open if serving substantial meals with drinks.

1ST April 2021

Brent Council warning letter to Mr Hasem Mohammadi regarding the merge of 11 & 12 Kilburn High Road in breach of S36 (6) (b) of the Licensing Act 2003.

13th April 2021

Premises granted pavement licence in consideration to Covid's financial impact, despite the problems with the venue. Licence granted with additional conditions.

04/07/2021

Police CAD reference: 796/04Jul21

Att Locn :11 KILBURN BRIDGE, NW6:SHANZELIZE LOUNGE

ENTERED BY: CHS (p226586) AT: 2021-07-04 01:44:47

^INFT IM IN THE SHISHA LOUNGE, THEY ARE REFUSING TO LET ME LEAVE MTF

01:45:00 04JUL21 CHS #2

ENTERED BY: CHS (p226586) AT: 2021-07-04 01:45:00

^INFT SECURITY HAVE TOLD ME THAT ITS A LOCK IN AND THEY HAVE WEAPONS

01:45:33 04JUL21 CHS #3

ENTERED BY: CHS (p226586) AT: 2021-07-04 01:45:33

^INFT THERE ARE 200 PEOPLE HERE, THEY SAID I CANT LEAVE UNTIL EVERYONE

ELSE LEAVES

01:47:38 04JUL21 193291 H2669 #4

AWN ^ NWE

THIS WILL BE LINKED TO YOUR CAD 776

01:47:53 04JUL21 CHS #5

ENTERED BY: CHS (p226586) AT: 2021-07-04 01:47:53
^OP **CALLER IS NOW SAYING HE IS O/S THE VENUE**
01:48:55 04JUL21 CHS #6
ENTERED BY: CHS (p226586) AT: 2021-07-04 01:48:55
^OP **CALLER IS O/S VENUE BUT STATES FRIEND IS INSIDE AND
SECURITY NOT
LETTING ANYONE ELSE LEAVE**
01:49:09 04JUL21 741773 H2723 #7
NWE^AWN NOTED 11 KILBURN BRIDGE ON YOUR GROUND, OUR IRV
UNIT WILL NOT
GO ACROSS.
01:49:14 04JUL21 CHS #8
ENTERED BY: CHS (p226586) AT: 2021-07-04 01:49:14
^**INFT CALLER ALSO MENTIONED SECURITY HAD BATONS**

04:55:38 04JUL21 193291 H2669 #13
^NWE
**CCTV ADVISED FROM PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE THAT DOOR STAFF
KEEP THE SHUTTERS
CLOSED AND LET PATRONS OUT IN GRPS, RATHER THAN ONE AT
AT TIME.**

07/07/2021

Police made aware of Council historical communication from Senior Control Room Officer that:

"The above named property (Shanzelize) is on Kilburn High Road opposite the Nationwide Building Society. On Friday 14th & Saturday 15th May (2021) I did notice in the early hours many people going in & out by knocking on the shutters. The shutter are then raised & lowered. Anyone passing would think that they were closed. I thought about the possible health & safety issue here too. Please can an inspection or investigation take place... when then run out of ice they go to the 24 hour shop near junction of Coventry Close."

16/07/2021

E-mail from Brent Council licensing acknowledging reports that calls made to police about illegal lock-ins taking place over weekend of 3rd/4th of May 2021, as well as complaints to Council about use of the rear of the premises in an unlicensed area to provide licensable activities and shisha. Brent Council visited on 15th July 2021 and requested CCTV footage for 4th July 2021, but the system was reported to be taken down to be replaced. Mr Mohammadi was reminded of the area of the premises that should be used for licensable activities.

19/07/2021

Notification of a resident complaint from Brent Council about the premises, stating that the venue "...does not abide by its licensing rules." and "routinely stay open into unsociable hours compromising her families sleep."

Several more warning letters and visits from the Council to give the premises management an opportunity to amend its practices were sent over a number of months.

Police visits

22/10/2021 @ 2039hrs Exhibit GLN/1

The premises was visited by the Council and police and was open for business. The area of the premises designated for licensable activities was largely empty of custom and staff. Beyond the end of the licensed area, through rear doors, a large enclosed marquee style tent is still erected outside and clearly conducting licensable activities. This was erected without appropriate planning authorisation (this issue is still ongoing).

28/01/2021 @ 2205hrs Exhibit GLN/2

The premises was visited again by Council and the Police and on this occasion Mr Mohammadi was present. The venue was still deserted inside, but operating with loud music outside in the marquee style area, a DJ playing loud music, along with shisha smoking and belly dancing. I discussed the situation with Mr Mohammadi. I reminded him that on numerous times over the past 3 years he had been advised not to use the area at the rear of the premises (beyond the rear doors of the licensable area). Yet whenever we visited we always found the licensable area empty and the rear being used, with licensable activities and custom. He explained he had sold his property abroad to fund the business and had invested a lot of his own money into the premises and he felt the Council were being unfair. He said "What can I do?" I explained that he should be running the licensable activities in line with his premises licence and not in areas not designated for use, as was the case again that evening.

SUMMARY

Even if you ignore some of the dubious circumstances and practices found during the Covid lockdown (the council have provided CCTV footage of customers coming and going at very late times as well as during COVID I understand), there are still numerous contentious licensing issues that have proved unresolvable.

The rear Shisha area is clearly the main source of income and focus for the business, but shouldn't be in use under current circumstances for a number of reasons. Firstly, it would appear that no planning permission was given to erect the structure (this is an ongoing legal dispute at present). Secondly, this area should not be used for licensable activity as it is outside the agreed area to conduct them.

Even if the permissions, such as planning, or the major variation application were applied for, we would have to oppose it on the grounds of causing ASB via noise pollution to local residents of Mallards Close, due to its close proximity. When you add in the licence holder and premises practices of flouting the existing license conditions, the police have little confidence in their ability to rectify the situation if they are given another chance.

I have attempted to make playable copies of body worn video for the purposes of presenting supporting evidence to our visits, however, at this time I cannot send them in with this correspondence and hope to forward on later on.

Yours Sincerely,

Gary Norton 2965NW
Licensing Constable – Brent Police