



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

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## TERRITORIAL POLICING

### **Brent Police Licensing Unit**

*Brent Civic Centre*

*Engineers Way*

*Wembley*

*Middlesex*

*HA9 0FJ*

**Your ref:** 24726

**Our ref:** 01QK/256/22/3302

### **Brent Borough Licensing**

**NW CU**

*South Harrow Police Station*

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*South Harrow*

*HA2 0DN*

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**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Police representations to the application for a new premises licence application for the 'The Filed Bar', 249, Neasden Lane, Neasden, Brent, NW10 1QG.**

I certify that I have considered the application shown above and I **wish to make representations** that the likely effect of the grant of the application is detrimental to the Council's Licensing Objectives for the reasons indicated below.

**Police Officer: Paul Scott**

**Licensing Constable PC 3302NW**

An officer of the Metropolitan Police, in whose area the premises are situated, who is authorised for the purposes of exercising its statutory function as a 'Responsible Authority' under the Licensing Act 2003.

The application has been made for a premises licence under section 17 of the act.

The Police representations are primarily concerned with all four of the licensing objectives.

On 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022, police received an application for a new premises licence at The Field Bar, 249, Neasden Lane, Neasden, London, Brent, NW10 1QG. The shopping area of Neasden consists of a small number of other public houses, several off-licences, fast food establishments and a number of bookmakers/adult gaming centres. . Many of these premises are open until late at night. The area has high levels of crime, many of which are related to both alcohol and drugs. This in turns leads to many calls of anti-social behaviour. Neasden circle also has a number of residential flats above the properties in this area. The application can be summarised as follows;

The Field Bar is a public house and was previously called 'Sal's Bar'. The premises licence for this venue has been revoked on three previous occasions – in 2017, 2018 and 2021. There were issues surrounding the premises when they were trading during the pandemic and several visits were conducted by the local authority and police.

It is recognised that this was not the fault of the current applicant, but does demonstrate that the premises has previously not traded appropriately within the law. Police have concerns that this will continue to be the case as shall be summarised further below.

The application is predominantly to serve alcohol and requests a late licence until 2.30am on Friday and Saturday. Until 12.30am from Sunday through to Wednesday and 1.30am on Thursday.

Police did make attempts to contact the applicant, Mr Finn without success and the end of the consultation period was missed. However, this was not the fault of the applicant as police had been trying to contact Mr Finn on the wrong telephone number. Contact with Mr Finn was eventually made by police and below is a summary of that conversation.

**1. PC Scott - Did you complete the application?**

Mr Finn: Yes I am happy with it so far. I would like a late licence to compete with another bar in Neasden, Katie's bar. If I cannot get a late licence, I will lose money.

**2. PC Scott – Are you aware of the issues with the pub previously?**

Mr Finn: I wasn't aware of the issues, but after speaking with representatives from Brent Council, I am aware that there had been issues with the venue.

**3. PC Scott - What were the issues?**

Mr Finn: I think that they were opening beyond their hours and people were in there drinking during the lockdown. I used to live in Neasden and used to drink in there occasionally.

**4. PC Scott – Have you got any previous experience of running a pub or other licensed premises?**

Mr Finn: I have a pub in Ireland that my wife currently runs. So I do have experience of running a pub.

**5. PC Scott - Are you aware of the levels of crime in and around Neasden and the level of street drinking?**

Mr Finn: When I used to live in Neasden it was not a bad place. I am not sure what it is like now.

**6. PC Scott - Do you own and/or run another business?**

Mr Finn: I have a pub in Ireland and a roofing company.

**7. PC Scott – When will you be working at the premises?**

Mr Finn: On the busiest days, so Saturday and Sunday.

**8. PC Scott - Who will be the DPS?**

Mr Finn: A lady called Leigh. I am not sure of her name, but I can find out. She used to run another pub and knows what she is doing.

**9. PC Scott - How many staff will you employ?**

Mr Finn: Maybe three on busy nights. When there are more staff, they can get in each other's way. On slower nights, probably just one.

**10. PC Scott - Who will be responsible for the training of staff?**

Mr Finn: The lady I know called Leigh.

**11. PC Scott - Will you be looking to serve food?**

Mr Finn: Yes, probably a hot drink and maybe soup, something like that. I shall see how it goes, but not a lot to start with.

**12. PC Scott - How many cameras do you and can you operate the CCTV?**

Mr Finn: There are 12 cameras. I will be setting up the cameras so that I can watch what is going on by using my 'phone if I am not there. If there are any issues, I can telephone the pub and ask them what is happening and to try and sort it out.

**13. PC Scott – Are you going to have SIA?**

Mr Finn: Only on Friday and Saturday from 9:30pm. I can always act as the SIA as I am qualified in Ireland, but not over here. SIA are quite expensive if you want good staff, so probably just one on a Friday and Saturday.

**14. PC Scott – What type of customers are you looking to attract?**

Mr Finn: Just local regulars and those from the Irish community.

**15. PC Scott - Where would be your smoking area?**

Mr Finn: At the rear. I don't want to have people smoking at the front. I would put signs up. There are however people living at the back and I will need to sort something out there. I don't want my customers getting into any bother with them. I will maybe have to speak with the council.

**16. PC Scott – Where at the back?**

Mr Finn: Homeless people I think, in sheds

**Police wish to make representations to this application on all four of the licensing objectives with the following grounds:**

As stated earlier, the below highlighted crimes are not attributable to the applicant Mr. Finn. Indeed during my telephone call with him, he did sound enthusiastic and was keen to get started with this new venture. However, I do have concerns regarding his understanding and knowledge of how the venue has been run before and the previous crime and disorder that have taken place there. This, I reasonably believe will have an impact on the way that the business will run in the future.

I am unsure as to how much time Mr Finn will actually spend at the venue. He did mention that he would be there on the busy times on a Friday and Saturday, but the venue wishes to open until 12.30am during the week and 1.30am on Thursdays. There was also mention of another public house within the Neasden area, close to The Field who already have a late licence and he would require a late licence in order to compete with them.

As can be seen below, there have been a number of crimes reported to police over the last few months and it is strongly felt that should this venue be given a licence that these type of crimes will continue as before. I have yet to be convinced that anything will change.

The Field is a small local pub that will attract the same type of clientele who will expect that the venue will be run as before. I am unsure as to what changes Mr Finn could bring to this premises that would uphold the licensing objectives.

As a snapshot, from the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2021, I can confirm that each of these incidents listed have been recorded as use of the 999 network. I have redacted characters from those crime numbers. This is not an exhaustive list but relevant to demonstrate that this premises has reported incidents of crime and disorder associated with alcohol. It can be further shown that crimes within this venue happen throughout the day and not just in the late evening;

19/06/2021 22.00hrs – Public Order 19\*\*199/21  
31/07/2022 22.00hrs – Assault (Common Assault) 19\*\*259/21  
17/10/2021 21.00hrs – Assault (ABH) 19\*\*\*95/21  
08/01/2022 14.40hrs – Burglary 19\*\*\*46/22  
12/02/2022 00.30hrs – Public Order 19\*\*\*44/22  
10/05/2022 13.00hrs – Theft 19\*\*\*19/22

From the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021, I can further confirm that each of these incidents listed have been recorded as use of the 999 network. Again, this is not an exhaustive list but relevant to demonstrate that this premises is linked to crime and disorder, namely alcohol and drugs throughout their operating times;

14/09/2021 00.30hrs – Drunk male refusing to leave, police called.  
25/09/2021 17.57hrs – Drug taking inside the venue.  
26/09/2021 20.34hrs – Drug dealing inside the venue.  
02/10/2021 21.19hrs – Drug taking inside the venue.  
17/10/2021 18.30hrs – Drunk couple in charge of a baby, dancing and shouting inside the venue.  
17/10/2021 22.36hrs – Threats made with a bottle.  
05/02/2022 20.58hrs – Assault.  
12/02/2022 00.53hrs – Drunk female making threats to kill.

**In the interests of upholding all four of the licensing objectives;**

- 1) The Prevention of Crime & Disorder.
- 2) Public Safety.
- 3) The Prevention of Public Nuisance.
- 4) The Protection of Children from harm.

**Police respectively ask that this application be refused.**

Yours sincerely

Paul Scott PC 3302NW  
Brent Licensing Constable  
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