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TERRITORIAL POLICING

Mr Joseph Finn
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NW BCU Licensing Department - Brent

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Your Ref: 27367

Date: Thursday 30th of March 2023

Our ref: 01QK/117/22/3122NW

Police representations to the application for a new premises license for 'The Field Public House, 249 Neasden Lane, Neasden NW10 1QG'

Police certify that we have considered the application shown above and 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.

**Officer: PC Phil Graves
Licensing Constable 3122NW**

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 new premises license under section 17 of the Licensing act 2003. The Police representations are concerned with all four of the licensing objectives, namely:

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

The Application

This is a new application made by Mr Patrick Finn, for an existing public House.

The reason for the new application was due to the previous license been revoked in the summer of 2022.

Back Ground of the Venue

The Field Bar, previously known as 'Sal's Bar' has a long history of licensing breaches, COVID breaches and a history of crime emanating from the venue.

The venue has had its license revoked three times already, in 2017, 2018 and 2021.

Our records show that Mr Finn applied for an almost identical license at this venue, but it was refused due to objections raised by the local authority and police

Recent Events

I recently made aware that uniformed officers visited the venue on two occasions. On 25/01/23 officers have entered The Field and found money in the tills. Body cam footage showed two ladies inside the venue who were unable to provide a reasonable explanation as to why there was money in the tills when the pub had no license to sell alcohol and should therefore not be trading.

On 14/02/2023 officers have again entered the pub and their bodycam footage showed two males sat at the bar. Both of these males had lager in their pint glasses that they continued to drink while police were present.

There was a third male present who gave his details as Mr Joseph Finn DOB 20/04/1964, the same name as the applicant.

The above two incidents show that the pub was trading and selling alcohol while not having a license apparently with the current applicant allowing alcohol to be served without a license.

Due to this I e-mailed Mr Finn asking him for an explanation as to what happened on these two dates. Below is a cut and paste of the e-mail dialogue between myself and Mr Finn.

Good morning Mr Finn,

I was in the process of dealing with your application and while doing this was passed video footage from colleagues of mine.

On 25/01/23 officers have entered The Field and found money in your Tills.

On 14/02/2023 officers have again entered The Field and found yourself and two males sat drinking lager at the bar.

Before I can progress with your application I require a written account from yourself as to why you had money in your till and why you are serving alcohol when you don't currently have a license.

Thanks,

Phil

RESPONSE FROM MR FINN:-

Hi Phill

I was not on the premises on those dates as I was in Ireland, I have been informed by your colleague John MC gann that the previous owner was on the premises and gave my name I believe him to be a blaguard I can prove my whereabouts on those dates regards Joe

FURTHER E-MAIL FROM MYSELF TO MR FINN. MR FINN'S REPLIES TO EACH QUESTION ARE IN RED BELOW :-

Joe,

Thanks for the prompt response, but I'm going to need a bit more information off you before I can progress with your application.

1. Who was the male in the bar when police attended if it wasn't you?

No 1 your colleague told it was Tim shehan

2. Who was in control of the pub while you were in Eire?

No 2 I have no control as I won't sign lease till I get a license

3. Who has the keys to the venue?

No 3 I have but they with me, last I was in the premises was early November with my electron nobody else there

4. Why was there money in the tills, as you're not meant to be trading?

No 4 nothing to do with me, Tim Sheehan I presume

5. Why was there beer in the lines when you don't have a license?

No 5 nothing to do with me, same again

As I've been telling Brent council all along if I have lease and license Tim Sheehan Will be barred, I've had that much Hassel over him I about to pull out regards Joe

The Field was previously owned by a male called Mr Tim Sheehan but his license was revoked in August 2018 due to a series of licensing breaches. Due to Mr Sheehan's actions when responsible for the public house he is currently not allowed to have any involvement in the running of this business.

Mr Finn is now e-mailing me stating that Mr Sheehan was in the venue serving beer.

Summary

There is a long history of licensing breaches at this venue, which has had its license revoked three times. The venue sits in the middle of a crime hot spot and a CIZ.

There is currently no license in place, but officers have attended on two occasions. The first had money in the till with two ladies working behind the bar. The second found two males sat drinking lager. A male was there who gave his name as the applicant, Mr Joseph Finn. Mr Joseph Finn states that this wasn't actually him, but a male called Mr Tim Sheehan who is not meant to have any dealings with the venue.

Taking all the above information into account and the long history of this venue having its license revoked so many times in such a short period of time police have no confidence that

this venue will be run in line with any of the four licensing objectives, so therefore strongly oppose this application.

Yours Sincerely,

PC Phil Graves 3122NW
NW BCU - Brent Licensing
Philip.Graves@met.police.uk