

The Lounge Expedited Review – 3rd July 2014

The brief facts of this case are that on 2nd March 2014 a new premises licence application was received from The Lounge, Unimix House, Abbey Road, NW10 7TR. The application was for a cafe/restaurant and was supported by a professionally produced architects plan, the licensable activities applied for were the sale of alcohol, regulated entertainment and late night refreshment. This application was dealt with by me and resulted in meeting the applicant at the Civic Centre and doing two site visits, at no stage was there anything to indicate this premise was to be anything other than a cafe/restaurant and the conditions were agreed with his solicitor on that basis.

On the night of 28th June 2014 and prior to be furnished as a cafe, this premise was used for a foam party. This was without the knowledge of the relevant authorities and was not a use agreed as part of the application process. It was not even known at that time that the premises had opened.

Whilst this function was taking place a shooting took place where between two and four rounds were fired resulting in the injury to one person, there was also a subsequent serious assault resulting in a broken jaw. Both of these injuries required hospital treatment and are still being investigated. It is also alleged that a noxious substance similar to tear gas was discharged within the building.

There is photographic evidence that the Condition 24 relating to capacity had been breached as well as Condition 7 in relation to plastic glasses. In addition by not informing the authorities of the function Condition 22 had also been breached.

On Monday 30th June 2104 I spoke to the premises licence holder Mr Mark Smart who stated that he was so shocked by the incident that he had already torn up the licence and would formally surrender it on the correct form to London Borough of Brent. He confirmed that by a text message to me stating "Dear nick, this is confirm that I am surrendering the licence for the lounge park royal, I will confirm this by email thanks mark". An appointment was made for him to attend the Civic Centre on Wednesday 2nd July 2014 at 1200 but he never attended. I subsequently received a text message stating he had been in an accident and was in a Birmingham hospital, this was not linked to the weekend's events. I can neither confirm nor deny that but can say that both text messages came from the phone number I have registered for him.

In view of the information above it is my belief that unless action is taken this premise could be used for a similar sort of event and further crime and disorder could take place. I am therefore asking the committee to suspend the premises licence pending a full hearing in twenty eight days time.

Nick Mortimer



NOKIA

From The Lounge...

07:33

Dear nick , this is to
confirm that I am
surrendering the licence
for the lounge park royal
, I will re confirm this by
email thanks mark

Received:

12-17-06

Options

Reply

Back

1 00

2 abc

def 3

4 ghi

5 jkl

mno 6





The Lounge, information from the Crime reports

CRIS 1915585, Shooting - On police arrival there was a large crowd of mostly IC3 male and females who had been in attendance at UNIMIX HOUSE, which is a warehouse which has been rented out for a club night. The event was a foam party which had around 450 people in attendance. On speaking with informants on scene it is believed that, just before police were called, the foam was let off as planned and, as it was being done so, tear gas has been set off by people unknown. After this a fight has broken out and a shot has been fired. From this a fight has ensued between two males, possible Susp1 and Viw1, which has then spilled out onto the street and another shot has been fired. Viw1 has received a bullet wound to the right knee area.

On speaking to Viw1 whilst he was being treated he stated that he was at the venue. He saw a female getting into an argument with a male, believed, Susp1, who has taken exception to this and started a fight, whereby, he has pulled out a gun (unknown what type, colour or size) and shot him in the left. He continued stating that he was lying on the floor screaming and a female in a car has helped him by taking him to the hospital. Viw2, who was heavily intoxicated, stated that further to this, there was another IC3 male, Susp2, who was also present and in possession of a handgun although it is not clear what he has done.

CRIS 1915583/14, GBH - On approach VIW1 was lying on the pavement seemingly unconscious. 619QK discovered that although unconscious, he was responsive. He was lying in a recovery position of sorts which his friends (the other VIW's) had put him in. He had a laceration to his right arm and there was blood all over the pavement and his clothes. I bandaged up the arm and then found a small open wound on the back of his head, in line with blunt force trauma. Witness account obtained which states that that he had a good view of the assault as 5 males punched and attacked the victim with bottles before kicking him in the head while he was on the ground. He is available and willing to provide a statement.

CAD messages, 719,1272,1602,1609, 1612,1613,1627,1619,1668,1667,1674,1678,1681,1691,1707,1708,1710,1730,1774,1837,1892,1948,2069 and 2839 all refer to this incident through the 999 system.

