

From: Mark Marshall
Sent: 09 September 2016 17:20
To: Licensing la2003
Subject: Fwd: New Licence Application 87 Central Drive

Please find attached additional evidence in relation to 87 Central Drive (new application) in advance of the hearing scheduled for the 20th September.

I will fill out the hearing notice with Mr Dochertys details indicating that he will be giving evidence on behalf of the licensing authority.

Sent from my Samsung device

----- Original message -----

From: charlie docherty <charlie.docherty@blackpool.gov.uk>
Date: 09/09/2016 16:53 (GMT+00:00)
To: Mark Marshall <mark.marshall@blackpool.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: New Licence Application 87 Central Drive

Dear Mr Marshall

I agree with the content's of your e mail, and would be happy to attend the hearing, and give them an incite into the problems caused by ASB through drink and drugs, in and around Central Dr, and the central coach park.

Kind Regards

Charlie Docherty

Chairman (Central Blackpool Business Forum)

From: Mark Marshall <mark.marshall@blackpool.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 September 2016 15:01:32
To: 'Central Blackpool Business Forum'
Subject: New Licence Application 87 Central Drive

Dear Mr Docherty

Further to my attendance at the Central Blackpool Business Forum meeting held at the Hotel and Apartments Club on Coronation Street on Wednesday 31st August, I noted one of the ongoing actions was the issues around the Central Car Park Coach Station operated by National Express and also problems around the toilets in this locality.

On the 9th September 2016 we had a more detailed discussion on this issue where you also expressed concern about the number of Off Licences as the root of the problem, in the communities opinion a lot of the issues are caused by people who were under the influence of drink or drugs who were aggressively begging and engaging in anti-social behaviour.

During the meeting on the 31st August Sgt Ian Andrew responded to the community concerns by reporting that the police are in attendance daily, are doing what they can and have or are in the process of issuing community protection warning to various problematic individuals.

On our meeting of the 9th September 2016 you explained that you had made further enquires in relation to the issues disclosed and went personally down to the car park on the afternoon of the 31st August 2016, you spoke with Andrew one of the managers of the Danflo toilets who confirmed that the issues of Anti-Social behaviour were spiralling out of control with about 20 undesirables hanging around on a daily basis, begging, abusing staff and the public verbally, behaving in a disorderly manner using foul and abusive language and general causing a perception of fear in the area for residents and visitors. Andrew made reference to an incident that occurred on or around the 23rd August 2016 during the day where a female was completely naked running around screaming and shouting, again she was either heavily under the influence of drink or drugs. Andrew explained that the need to call the police to respond to issues was a daily occurrence and he had reported the problems to his client who was the council, the matter was reported to John Paul Lovie who looks after this contract on behalf of the council.

Whilst visiting Andrew you also witnessed 2 undesirables go into one of the disabled toilets and spend about 15 minutes inside where your presumption seemed to be they were either taking or dealing drugs, you formed this view based upon their appearance, and the all the reported issues of similar behaviour.

You made further enquires the same day speaking to Eddy a cleaner employed by Danflo who again confirmed how bad things were and the verbal abuse and threats he is subjected too when trying to move problematic people on is significant, he also commented that one day after asking 2 individuals to move on he was shouted at and had the wing mirror of his van damaged by the individuals.

The communities observations of police activity have been negative on one occasion where they saw 2 PCSO stop and speak to some of the more problematic characters and rather than move them on they seemed to be just having a friendly chat and left them to go about their business which seemed to be just causing general annoyance to the public.

You also spoke with a representative of National Express who again described the area as “ Nightmare” and they too were in regular contact with the police.

Our discussion then moved on to alcohol retailers in the area where you confirmed you could not identify any one particular retailer but you believe that due to the high volume of alcohol retailers in the area that the prospect of additional or new licensed premises could only make things worse, add this to the wide spread problems already being felt by the community you represent a new off licence in the area would only make things worse.

We discussed the fact that this particular issue around the coach park was first brought to your attention about 6 months ago by Dave Daily the manager of the Castle pub and has been an ongoing item on the agenda ever since, whilst there has been some improvement's for short periods the problem seems to have come back with a vengeance in the last couple of months.

When you have looked into longer term interventions regarding the homeless problem in the area and you were shocked to discover that Social Services just attend and give the individuals hot refreshment's.

I would obviously like the community issues to be raised as I have heard them first hand but cannot necessarily evidence specifics in the same way that you can, to that end you agreed to come and speak at the proposed Licensing Hearing on the 20th September 2016 at 6pm where the application to consider the grant of a new Off Licence at 87 Central Drive will be considered.

I explained that in order to be as fair as possible we (Licensing Authority) must give the applicant proper notice of who we wish to attend and the topics they will cover, to that end my proposal will be that this e mail forms the framework of your evidence and you would only be permitted to amplify the matters contained herewith, for example it would be unfair to stray into areas that the applicant has not had proper notice of.

If you are in agreement with the contents of the e mail and you are willing to attend the hearing I feel your community knowledge would really help the Licensing Committee when considering this application.

Mark Marshall
Licensing and Health & Safety Manager
Blackpool Council
01253478493