

Ryan Ratcliffe

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 March 2022 20:54
To: Licensing la2003
Subject: Application 088260

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Dear Blackpool Council,

My girlfriend, my three month old son and I live at [REDACTED]. I am writing to object the licensing request from our neighbours The Barrons Hotel. We are on an end of terrace and The Barron's are directly through the wall to us. Their licensing request has been published outside their property and dated 14/02/22. The application request number is 088260. I have great fear that this is going to cause us even more distress which they have already brought upon my family.

To begin with, The Barrons took on new ownership around March 2021. Since then we've suffered with a plethora of issues which have included anti-social behaviour, urinating and defecating on our wall, litter, smashed bottles on the streets and our driveway, loud music past the hours of 23:00, fighting on the streets, damage to guests vehicles and drug dealing. We have constantly been in touch with the council, the police, stayblackpool and attended PACT meetings in regards to the Barrons Hotel.

Our first reported issues go back to September 2021. We grew increasingly concerned about an uptake of activity in our alleyway and litter (including smashed glass) outside of our property and decided to install CCTV. We began uploading our CCTV on the Lancashire Police website in September. It began with drug dealing and we have clear CCTV of people exiting the side door of the Barrons to meet people in our alleyway to exchange white powder bags for money. CCTV can be sent to you if requested. This was a daily occurrence and led to a noticeable increase in antisocial behaviour. We also attached a video of a drug dealer leaving The Barron's at approximately 01:00 and being chased after and beaten up on the street. The council have installed a floodlight in the alley.

The smell of cannabis is always potent from the hotel. I have been in the hotel myself and it reeks of cannabis. However the most distressing fact is that the smell bleeds into our home and also my child's bedroom. It's a very strong and potent smell. Unfortunately this is a regular occurrence. The Barron's is currently functioning as a HMO- which we have reported to you also. Most of their tenants stand outside the entrance and smoke cannabis. It's really upsetting and distressing to take our baby anywhere and walk through the pungent smell of cannabis daily. If it doesn't smell of cannabis then it smells of smoke or fast food. In recent months they have started a justeat business doing deliveries on a bike. Our hallway constantly smells of fried food and it can be smelt on our clothing. I also fear that with the sale of alcohol we will have groups congregating outside of our home smoking and drinking. This is a total disregard for our privacy and amenity.

Not only have we caught drug dealing in the street and our alley but we've had a huge increase of people using our wall, driveway and even our front door as their public toilet. We've sent the police at least two instances of people leaving the Barron's hotel and defecating against our wall. There are often drunk people stumbling

outside who go to the toilet on our property and just last week somebody urinated over the wall and onto my car. Once again, CCTV can be sent if you want proof. One instance a male leaves the Barron's to come and release his excrement all over our wall.

The loud music we have been documenting to the council and have been filling out noise complaints - however we are currently out of tourism season and the karaoke has not been going ahead. The music often lasts later than 11 p.m. I also have concern about the clientele and exactly who they're taking on. Every hotel can get unpleasant guests, however we've never had such huge problems. They seem to take anybody on and at any time. In one instance me and Louise were awoken to noise in the alleyway. It was a member of staff from The Barron's checking in a couple in the alley with no luggage at 4am. The car the guests arrived in left the premises the next morning at 10:30am. A total disregard for us, families living in the area and other neighbouring hotel guests. In relation to noise they are currently renovating the property but DIY can start as early as 7am and finish just after midnight. One renovation included new signage and colour changing flood lights. They are on all the time and the flood lights have been positioned right into our window and completely illuminate our living room. We have purchased blackout blinds to try and limit the amount of light that comes through.

Although online reviews cannot always be trusted, there are a lot of reviews on [booking.com](https://www.booking.com) that state the managers drink with the guests and guests complain about noise, drugs and drunk people.

In regards to them operating as a takeaway, two weeks ago I wrote into the council to express concern. About a month ago they decided to start a delivery service and the smell bleeds into our flat. Our flat frequently smells of fatty foods and we suspect that fat is being put down the drains as are drains constantly stink and we have to bleach them at least twice a week. We fear that by granting them this license that the smell will persist in our family home throughout the night.

I really find the application to be a major concern. Not only have we had a huge increase in anti-social behaviour and police activity in our area, but me and Louise have been really struggling lately. We've introduced a beautiful baby boy into the world and whilst we were once confident in our business it's making us feel shut out and wanting to close up. It's not fair for a child to be growing up in these conditions. Despite the constant contact with the council, stayblackpool, our local police, the frequent police activity and attending PACT meetings - it always feels like we're not being listened to and the odds are stacked against us. They have a total disregard for neighbouring properties and are really bringing the area down. This is a family and residential spot, right in the heart of the holiday district that is now seeing an uptake in crime and antisocial behaviour. The license application will cause the area even more problems.

I ask you to please contact me if you have any questions and to please not grant this hotel a late night license.

Thank you

Martin Mullineaux

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