

FW: EXTERNAL: Fw: Re Chequered Flag

e-mailed to ANDY COOPER <ANDY.COOPER@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk>; LICENSING <LICENSING@NWLeicestershire.gov.uk> 5 July 2021

Good morning Andy,

I just wanted to contact you regarding some further issues with The Flag Micropub.

I've included one of the first emails received from Licensing below, sadly, regarding the exact same issues we are still trying to get resolved today, nearly five years on!?! Why are we still having this conversation? Why has this moron still got a license? Why is nothing effective ever done to stop him carrying on like this?

Last night saw the return of the sound system to the pub, something that last appeared in October 2020 and lasted up until Christmas 2020. Mr Sandham was running the pub alone yesterday and seemingly lost control of the the mob of raucous drinkers in the early evening, with the extremely loud music beginning at approx 18:00 hrs. He was arguing with his intoxicated partner, who could be clearly heard demanding the music be turned on and turned up loud to satisfy the mob she was drinking with. He lost the argument and basically gave up. Then ensued several hours of loud music and essentially, crown karaoke, with the whole pub singing along, or shouting and screaming along, with the front door wide open. Then at 21:35 the music stopped and another loud argument ensued, with Mr Sandham trying to use his licensed hours as an excuse to gain control and kick out the crowd, stating his license ends at 21:30 on Sundays.

He and his partner stayed back in the pub to continue drinking, bringing in someone new off the street to join them.

As per the routine developed from Oct to Dec 2020 we knew exactly how the evening would go, and Mr Sandham did not disappoint in being as predictable as always. Whilst our evening was totally ruined, and our mental health antagonised further, by the ticking time bomb of "When is the music suddenly going to start up again" This involves Mr Sandham and his partner, sitting in the pub drinking after hours, arguing and getting angrier, until in their own twisted logic, they feel justified in suddenly banging the music on as loud as possible. The other part to his twisted logic seems to be that if he is planning to leave the premises within the next hour, it's permissible to crank out the music as loud as possible. The massive detriment to our ability to enjoy our home and our mental health is the almost torture technique like way in which this whole thing is carried out. You cannot relax. The music comes on loud, goes off after 5 seconds, stays quiet for 30 seconds, comes back on quietly, gradually builds up, suddenly goes loud, suddenly goes off, stays on full volume for one whole song, then the same song is repeated, again and again, then off for 2 minutes, suddenly back on full volume for 10 seconds of a song, back to the start of the same song, 10 seconds, back to the start. Then it's dead silent for 30 minutes, then suddenly you have Pavarotti at full volume!!!

This went on until 23:45 last night. It's exacerbated my anxiety and mental health so much that I am off work sick today, mainly as I have no control over this and I have no assurance it will end. How is this supporting the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance? He is actively going out of his way to create a nuisance. My solicitors spoke to his landlord about this and we were given assurances that both the TV and sound system were removed from the premises. So in the full knowledge of all our historic complaints, all the contact from the council and the instruction of his landlord (Under threat of his lease being terminated) he still decided to keep the TV and start broadcasting live football and keep the sound system and consciously make the decision that it

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would be the responsible thing to do as a license holder, to play loud music until nearly midnight on a Sunday?

In addition to this we still have all the noise from patrons using the tables and chairs outside and the repeated daily intimidation of Mr Sandham hanging around the pub all day every day, having the same repeated loud conversation, beneath our bedroom window and outside our front door, with every passer by, dozens of times, slagging us off for complaining to the council about the tables and chairs and that he doesn't care what anybody says, he is going to whatever he wants. Again, why has this guy still got a license?

Not a nice way live.