EXTERNAL: Public Nuisance - The Flag Micropub, 32 Borough Street, Castle Donington

e-mailed to Licensing and Bev Smith - 6 July 2021

To whom it may concern,

A second night of unacceptable behaviour at the above premises, with the license holder (Mr Sandham) at the helm.

The situation in the pub and on the pavement outside our property last night was more like an out of control, raucous, teenagers house party, than a small drinking establishment serving craft ales and encouraging conversation, being managed by a responsible party.

The loud music started at 20:45 and ran until 22:30. A small group of Mr Sandham's friends/regulars appeared to be the only patrons, with Mr Sandham being an active member of the mob, shouting and singing alongside them all evening.

The music was extremely loud, there was no part of our home where you could escape to without hearing it. It was worst in our lounge as that is directly next door to the bar and the bedroom directly above. It made it difficult for us to hear our TV at normal volume and we had to speak louder than normal in order to hear each other.

The crowd was shouting at the top of their voices to be heard over the music and Mr Sandham appeared to be actively encouraging loud singing, basically karaoke, with himself joining in and laughing along with the drunken crowd.

These loud individuals were regularly exiting the building to smoke outside our property, leaving the front door open for the loud music to be heard in the street. The smokers were stood directly in front of our property/front door/lounge window, shouting and swearing loudly in public.

This behaviour on behalf of Mr Sandham, as a license holder, is now being considered to be intimidation and harassment, and that this noise is being created deliberately as a statement or message from him. From what we cannot help but overhear in loud conversations, we are the bad guys for continually complaining about his bad behaviour and this him sending us a message, punishing us. It's basically an indirect threat "You interfere in the way I run my pub? Look what I can do to get back at you"

Even though our solicitor has reached out to his landlord about the issue of playing loud music and he spoke to Mr Sandham, and we were assured the sound system would be removed, Mr Sandham, in full knowledge that it is causing a nuisance, and that he is not supporting the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance, has made the conscious decision to take to actively play this loud music and encourage his patrons to sing and shout loudly.

We need your help urgently, please, as this is just going to get worse and worse. We cannot live like this, it's not fair and this license holder is really starting to get out of control.