

# **Licensing Act Sub-Committee**

## **Supplementary Agenda**

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**Date:** Thursday, 17th June, 2021  
**Time:** 2.00 pm  
**Venue:** Council Chamber - Town Hall, Macclesfield, SK10 1EA

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3. **Application for a Premises Licence at Proper Sound, 8 Chestergate, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 6BA (Pages 3 - 6)**

To consider the above application.

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### We are human beings.... Not offices!!!

Those passing by they our building ...do not know that offices are gone long time ago... and us...families... are living there....

I would like to make a statement. The apartment in 6, Chestergate is both my life and my work. And ...it is important for me to be able to live in a place where stress is minimum...even though it is a town centre location.....I have been living in this apartment for more than 4 years and.....until recently we could enjoy a decent and peaceful life. Since the empty shop (which is part of our building) has been leased everything changed.

I know that we are here to discuss alcohol licensing and amplified music both inside and outside licensing, but I think it is also important to look at what has been happening since the shop has been leased.

We are tenants of a housing Association and we have been treated as second-class citizens. Since the beginning we faced complete disrespect of our lives, the noises produced in the last weeks from work without planning permission have affected us not only in our personal capacity but also our work. Since my heart operation and because of lockdown I have been working from home. I am a specialist tutor and mentor and I work with students in university in one-to-one basis. Students with learning disabilities, autism and mental health. I am also a psychotherapist and working both as self-employed but also doing volunteer work for the Women's Centre in Stockport.

I know how difficult it has been the lockdown in economic terms. Although, this is not an excuse to disregard laws. Our building is a listed building but building works have been carried out without planning permission. Even after the enforcement officer asked to stop any building works, works kept going!!!. I know the planning permission will be discussed separately but it is an indication of how it has been put business before preservation of historical buildings and families lives.

I do not think anyone would like to have a business like this underneath their bedrooms or in their backyards. A business that is going to sell alcohol all day long (creating drunken crowds), every day of the week and playing amplified music both indoors and outdoors.

Chestergate is lovely town centre street that have several coffee shops and local businesses, nobody has amplified music indoor and outdoor... not sure why we should have this kind of situation underneath our apartments...

The backyard will be used for drinking, playing music, smoking, etc. it would mean for those living on the back of the building (where we got both bedrooms and living space) constant pollution, noise such as chatter, laughter and so on.

I believe that profit has been put before families and wellbeing of local communities therefore, I ask this licensing hearing to deny both alcohol and music licensing for the following reasons related to Licensing Act 2003, and include but are not limited

to, Prevention of Public Nuisance, Prevention of Crime and Disorder, and Public Safety.

Public Nuisance: if the license is accepted for live and amplified recorded music indoors and outdoors together with the sale of alcohol will create a huge amount of hours of public nuisance which will have a harmful impact to all residents. Not only for those residents with apartments to the front of the building but for those at the back of the building where we have both bedrooms and living spaces.

Preventions of Crime and Disorder/Public safety: The long hour of selling alcohol in the premise will created a high consumption of alcohol (that will affect people's behaviour) not only inside the premise (that has a backyard just underneath our apartments) but also outside the building. I am a woman living on my own and I will feel intimidated to go through group of people to access our main building door. I will not feel safe, and I will feel scared if those people are intoxicated.

Also living in a town centre location, I will feel that those people can easily identify myself and where I live.

For the reasons stated above I object for any licensing granted to the applicants.

To Whom It May Concern,

I have written a statement to be read out at the hearing for Proper Sounds license (8 Chestergate, Macclesfield, sk11 6ba). Please see below.

"I have objected to the license being requested by James King for a number of different reasons. I'm don't know all of the correct terminology to object all I know is that my life would be turned upside down if a license for both music and alcohol were to be granted.

I am a key worker and have worked throughout most of the COVID lockdowns looking after children so that other key workers can work. I am concerned that the noise from downstairs is going to have a negative impact on my sleep and homelife therefore impacting upon my work. I am in a position of trust and I also need to safeguard the children in my care. I need to be on top form to do this not tired because Proper Sound decided to stay open late.

I also suffer with depression and anxiety and have been medicated for them for over 10 years. Recently I decided to wean myself off this medication which I am successfully doing but I feel the anxiety of having people drinking alcohol and listening to amplified music just outside my bedroom window would force me back onto those medications. Imagine having somebody constantly having a party next door from your home after a long day at work.

I know you are all thinking that I chose to live in town so I should expect noise and people to be drinking around me. This is true to a certain extent. I chose to live in a development of 6 flats which were purpose built. I know there are bars around us and we put up with the noise as it happens very rarely and they were here when we moved in. If Proper Sound was already there we would not have chosen to move here but it wasn't. The flats were here first. We are a strong community who keep ourselves to ourselves and have a strong work ethic. We may live in housing association flats but this doesn't mean we are any less of a person than anybody else.

The building work going on in Proper Sound has been horrendous for us as residents for a number of weeks now. I believe this shows the owners character as they gave us no warning and some days their radio feels like I'm in a nightclub not my home. I now feel that there can be no level of trust from us in the people involved in Proper Sound. Luckily I do not work from home but it would be impossible to do so if I did. The council have asked for building in a listed building to cease until planning permission has been granted but still the endless banging and drilling continues day after day. In my opinion this shows a lack of respect. Also when we see the owners they make us feel uncomfortable by smirking at us. I just don't have any trust that this as a business is going to work under residential homes.

I feel very stuck as if this goes ahead I feel I would have to leave a home in which we have been happy and settled in for three years now. I also don't know how this would affect my mental health. I am writing this in desperation.

I wish James and Lucie luck with their business but I don't feel that below 6 family residential homes is the place to do it"

Thank you

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