

LICENSING (HEARING) SUB COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2012
Premises: Club2AD, 2 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2HT

Sub Committee

Deputy Edward Lord OBE JP (Chairman)
Alderman Simon Walsh JP
Kevin Everett CC

City of London Officers

Caroline Webb	- Town Clerk's Department
Rakesh Hira	- Town Clerk's Department
Ru Rahman	- Comptroller & City Solicitor's Department
Peter Davenport	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department

The Objector

Mr Gary Grant of Counsel, accompanied by Commander Wayne Chance and Inspector Rita Jones.

Also in Attendance

Marianne Fredericks CC for the Ward of Tower

Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005

- 1) A hearing was held in Committee Room 4, Guildhall, London EC2, to consider the application by the City Police for a Summary Review of the premises licence for 'Club2AD, 2 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2HT'.
- 2) The Sub Committee had before them copies of;
 - (i) the application dated 19 November 2012 of the City of London Police for a Summary Review of the premises licence;
 - (ii) the certificate dated 19 November 2012 signed by Superintendent Norma Collicott of the City of London Police certifying that, in her opinion, the premises were associated with serious crime and serious disorder;
 - (iii) the decision of the previous Licensing Review Hearing of 30 August 2012;
 - (iv) the minutes of the previous Licensing Review Hearing of 30 August 2012;
 - v) documentary evidence submitted by the City of London Police in support of the application.
- 3) The hearing commenced at 10.35am

- 4) The Sub Committee considered whether it was necessary to take interim steps pending the Full Review of the licence and, if so, the nature of those steps.
- 5) The Sub Committee noted that as the premises had appealed the decision of the Review Hearing held on 30 August 2012, the conditions agreed at the hearing had not been implemented.
- 6) Mr Gary Grant of Counsel introduced the City of London Police's application for a summary review.
- 7) The Sub Committee were informed that since the previous Licensing Review Hearing in August, the violence witnessed at the premises had escalated.
- 8) Mr Grant informed the Sub Committee that on 18th November 2012 there had been a serious stabbing at the premises. One of the victims had a stab wound through his diaphragm which pierced his heart along with various other stabbing injuries including a deep cut from his eye to his jugular.
- 9) The Police had been called to investigate the stabbing but on arriving at the premises, realised that the ambulance service had not been called.
- 10) The suspected stabber had been evicted from the premises by the SIA registered doormen. It was then thought that three or four associates of the stab victim followed the suspected stabber out of the premises to the side street where he was attacked and beaten until he was barely conscious.
- 11) Mr Grant informed the Sub Committee that both of those involved in the incident were thought to be members of the same gang. The Police had been faced with a conspiracy of silence from those who were at the premises at the time of the stabbing, which was common with gang violence.
- 12) Mr Grant stressed the importance of and asked for a suspension of the licence as a reprisal was suspected to occur in the near future. The Police had no faith that the premises would not try to open later hours. At the Review Hearing in August 2012, the previous manager, Mr Newby, had been blamed for many of the problems at the premises and those present representing the premises had confirmed that he no longer worked there. However, it had transpired that Mr Newby had only been transferred to a sister premises and had returned after the Review Hearing had taken place.
- 13) The agreement in place with the Police to provide them with 14 days' notice of external promoted events had been consistently ignored and the incident on the 18 November 2012 had taken place at such an event which the Police were not informed about.

- 14) Mr Grant highlighted a number of promoted events that were published on the premises website, none of which the Police had been informed about.
- 15) Mr Grant argued that there was good cause to fear that the premises would not adhere to any conditions placed on the licence and that all faith had been lost, resulting in the requested suspension of the licence.
- 16) In answer to a question, the Commander informed the Sub Committee that the Police were in constant communication with neighbouring boroughs, sharing intelligence on gang related incidents. The Commander was committed to working closely with the Police Licensing Team to ensure action was taken on premises' before similar incidents occur.
- 19) Mr Grant, Commander Wayne Chance, Inspector Rita Jones and Marianne Fredericks withdrew. Members of the Sub Committee deliberated and made their decision with the representatives of the Town Clerk and the Comptroller and City Solicitor present.

The meeting ended at 10.55am

Chairman

Contact Officer: Caroline Webb

Tel. no. 020 7332 1416

E-mail: caroline.webb@cityoflondon.gov.uk

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONDON

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr Deputy Edward Lord OBE JP (Chairman)
Mr Alderman Simon Walsh JP
Mr Kevin Everett CC

Wednesday 21 November 2012 (10.00 – 11.00)

IN RE:

CLUB 2 AD
2 CRUTCHED FRIARS, LONDON EC3
(WARD OF TOWER)

The Sub-Committee was addressed by Mr Gary Grant of Counsel for the Applicant and by Commander Wayne Chance.

This is an application made by the Commissioner of Police for the City of London pursuant to Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 for a Summary Review of the premises licence for premises known as Club 2AD, 2 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2HT.

We have received the required certificate submitted by Superintendent Collicot on behalf of the Commissioner and the application from Inspector Jones which was accompanied by a witness statement of Inspector Paul Carroll regarding the incident on 18 November 2012, which involved two significant assaults, one of which was a near fatal stabbing.

The Sub-Committee consider the matters of utmost seriousness and accept the view of the Commissioner that they need to be dealt with as expediently as possible.

We have taken into account the current situation regarding the premises. We note that they were subject to a Review in August 2012 and are of the view that had the decision of that Review been implemented, it would have prevented this incident entirely.

The Premises Licence Holder appealed the decision and has carried on running the business regardless.

There has been an on-going failure to co-operate and communicate with the City of London Police and to inform them of promoted events, as previously agreed, and unfortunately this most recent incident occurred at such an event.

In light of all the evidence presented to us, we consider that pending the substantive hearing and in accordance with Section 53B (1) of the Act it is

appropriate and necessary to take the interim step of suspending the premises licence of the premises with immediate effect.

**C E Lord
S Walsh
K M Everett**