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10 December 2008

To who it may concern;

I am writing with regards to the article in the Lancashire Evening Post on 6 December 2008.

I'm a regular customer of the Pleasant Retreat Inn, Lostock Hall; and I visit there most Sundays with my family for our lunch, and to meet friends with their children, I also visit some evenings at the weekend and I would like to disagree with your decisions about the problems surrounding the pub. I have never seen any trouble in the pub involving any of the regular customers. The only time there seems to be any trouble is when the unruly teenagers outside start causing trouble. The police should be concentrating on them and stopping them congregating around the cenotaph, benches and shops.

People I know don't like going to the local Spar Shop in the evenings when these troublesome teenagers are hanging around. Do the police not also accept that the Kingsfold Youths cause a lot of the trouble when they come up to Lostock Hall? It was only a few weeks back when they were in the Lostock Hall area causing trouble in the village and at the local youth club where my son was at the time.

Why have the police not used the video footage of the youths drinking and causing trouble which should have been recorded from the CCTV camera on the corner of the Glovers Bakery Shop to prosecute them?


Has it occurred to the powers that be, that some of these youths that I know to be seventeen have been refused alcohol from the pub and asked to leave the premises (of which I have witnessed happen – and can confirm this information as 100% FACT) are causing trouble outside

I believe that the police have told Lynn Birtwistle (landlady of the Pleasant Retreat Inn) to report any disturbances around the pub with the youths and under-age drinking, so that they can deal with the situation. Some of which have occurred during the early hours of the morning when the pub is shut and these youths should be at home! Lynn has done this and these calls have then been logged against her and the pub's name, which doesn't seem fair as she is doing the police's job for them. Why aren't there any officers around to deal with these situations?

There have been several bad incidents in other pubs in the Lostock Hall area; for example; a girl was raped in one pub; a man was stabbed in another pub, and there have been several other serious assaults that I know about. Are there any threats to the other licensees to have papers served on them to have their premises closed for an indefinite period?

Lynn Birtwistle has been a very good landlady of the Pleasant Retreat Inn, who has also raised money for several local charities since being in the pub, and I don't think its fair to treat her in this way.

Yours Sincerely



J Cusack
(A CONCERNED CUSTOMER)