

Appendix B

On behalf of Lancashire Constabulary, I wish to submit the following evidence to support the review application made by South Ribble Borough Council for the premise licence namely, Harleys Convenience Store, Station Rd, Bamberbridge.

On 4th January 2018, Police received an application to transfer the premise licence and vary the DPS to Miss Jacquelyn Bramley. Licensing Officers conducted an interview with the new DPS when she explained that this was her first licensed premise. Advice was given to assist her in the management of the premise. Police checks were conducted and Police raised concerns with the DPS regarding hers sons involvement in the business but she confirmed that it would be minimal. The Police made no representations at the time but did have concerns.

At 12:55 on Thursday 15th April 2018 a test purchase operation was conducted by Police during which the DPS herself sold four cans of Kronenbourg lager to a 16 year old male. The DPS was later given a warning.

At 11:15 on 5th September 2018, Police received a call from a member of public who stated that the male worker at the shop had threatened him with a knife and chased him out of the shop. The son of the owner was interviewed stating that he used a plank of wood as self defence.

Following the incident, numerous unsuccessful calls were made and an email was sent to the DPS in order for CCTV footage to be retrieved.

The DPS made contact with Police on 10th September 2018 stating that she had been ill in hospital and had also changed her mobile number. She stated that she would get her partner to download the CCTV. The DPS also stated that she would be changing the layout of the premise and was advised to submit plans to SRBC.

The CCTV was left for CID however the footage left had nothing on it. Police believe that this was due to the fact that it was the DPS son involved in the incident. Further contact was made with the son of the DPS who, after being extremely rude to the Officer, stated that the CCTV footage only recorded for 2 weeks then put the phone down on the Officer. Due to insufficient CCTV the Police were unable to take the matter further.

On 4th October 2018, Licensing Officers attended the premise where they found a young girl and her baby standing in at the shop whilst the DPS's son was at cash and carry. On this occasion the CCTV monitor was not working.

On 15th October 2018, Licensing Officers re attended the premise to check the CCTV and spoke with the DPS who was at the shop on this occasion. All appeared to be in order.

On 25th October 2018, a further test purchase operation was conducted at the premise by SRBC where a 14 year old was sold alcohol by the DPS's son.

Licensing Officers attended the following day to collect CCTV footage as arranged but once again this was not available. A USB stick was left at the premise and footage was received by Police on 29th October 2018.

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On 6th November 2018, SRBC reported that following an interview the DPS had agreed to ensure that her son had no involvement in the business and that he daughter would complete a personal licence course.

On 27th November 2018, Police received intelligence that the son of the DPS was involved in the supply of drugs at the premise.

A joint inspection with Police and Trading Standards was conducted on 11th December 2018 where once again there was no authority for the female staff member to sell alcohol. Three bank cards were found at the premise that did not belong to staff and a tick list believed to be for the sale of drugs was found next to the rear stockroom door.

The DPS was emailed on 13th December 2018 to once again provide CCTV and once again this was followed up on 17th December 2-18.

The DPS made contact with Police on 19th December 2018 and she stated that the footage was at the premise ready for collection. On Police attendance a short while later, staff were trying to download the footage having just taken a call from the DPS. Police took the footage only to find that once again it had not been downloaded correctly and was only showing 17 seconds of footage. The Police believe that again, staff were trying to avoid showing footage of drug dealing.

On the following day, police attended again to retrieve the correct CCTV. The son of the DPS was working and was unable to operate the system. Police started the recording and due to the time it was taking left requesting that the system was not touched. On their return the son of the DPS was holding the USB having removed it from the hard drive.

The Police believe that there is an on going issue at the premise with drug supply and that the premise is being run by family members that are an integral part of this issue. CCTV footage shows large amounts of cash being handled and packages / money being passed between staff and customers. The DPS has acknowledged to Police that the business is not doing well and Police are currently investigating financial concerns within the company after a cash seizure.

The management of the premise is extremely poor, the current DPS is not in day to day control and the current premise licence conditions are inadequate for the current business. Police believe that the current DPS is aware of the issues at the premise and due to being family members is not dealing with issues at the premise.

Police are spending a large amount of time dealing with the premise and its workers.

Police believe that the premise licence for this business should be revoked.