



St Mary's Way, Melton Mowbray
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Melton Borough Council

17 NOV 2017

RE: STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2017

In response to the letter received from Melton Borough Council regarding the Statement of Licensing Policy 2017, we would like our comments to be included in any consultations regarding the above policy.

We have been operating 2 nightclubs, both under the same management, in Melton Mowbray, (Tubes and Roadhouse) for many years. Tubes Nightclub has been operational for 34 years and Roadhouse for 22 years, so we feel that we have considerable experience in the nightlife of this town. Both the nightclubs are within the CIP zone and we are aware that the intention of Cumulative Impact Policies (CIP) is to reduce the level of crime and social disorder occurring in the night time economy.

SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF 24 HOUR DRINKING LAWS, WE HAVE FOUND THAT:

- There is little differentiation between pubs and nightclub opening hours.
- We feel that there is no policing of licensing conditions, resulting in some pubs operating unlawfully, (examples: serving alcohol after time, loud music after time, lack of sufficient security to monitor underage)
- There are two pubs operating virtually as nightclubs, with one even charging admission! and only open for two nights a week – is this a public house?
- People are 'preloading' more than ever before, due to cheap drinks obtained from outlets such as supermarkets, off licences, etc.
- CCTV is not always manned until the later hours, and sometimes not at all. (We appreciate that this system is operated by volunteers). We feel that some licensed premises are taking advantage of this situation.
- Communication between the pubwatch radio system is not always used as intended. This can lead to poor intelligence between premises in the event of any disturbance. This can result in problems/issues that have led to expulsion from one licensed premises, being carried on in another.
- Lack of police presence, which we appreciate is not their fault due to cutbacks.
- Due to the later closing hours, less Taxis are available, causing people to hang around the streets causing potential disruption in our cumulative impact zone.

- Before the introduction of 24 hour drinking, within the CIP Zone there were 2 nightclubs, (Tubes and Roadhouse), and a good variety of bars and pubs. This system was a good balance and complied with the four licensing objectives: Public Safety / The Prevention of Crime and Disorder / The Prevention of Public Nuisance / The Protection of Children from Harm.

FURTHER OBSERVATIONS / COMMENTS

- Extended hours have resulted in two premises, The Kings Head and The White Lion, operating as nightclubs. We feel that this has introduced a new drinking culture in Melton Mowbray. We also feel that any application for two nightclubs in the CIP zone would have been turned down in the past, because of saturation within the zone. We feel that this is encouraging underage drinking, late night unlawful activity, (i.e.) hanging about town after the White Lion closes, causing us problems by teenagers hanging about as we do not admit under 18's into our nightclub. We will not accept under 18's.
- We would like a definition between a nightclub, public house, restaurant or institutions.
- Please refer to the Home Office document: REBALANCING THE LICENSING ACT
- We feel that a meeting should be arranged with all the concerned bodies / licencees / police and licensing authorities.

Regards, we the undersigned, DATE: 16.11.17

Trevor G. Vernon

Tracey E. Vernon

Stuart Machin

Adrain Hubbard

Premises Licence Number: MM A0104 – Tubes Nightclub

Premises Licence Number: MMA0117 - Roadhouse Nightclub