

Application for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003

Please read the following instructions first:

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form.

If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary.

You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

Name of applicant:

Apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 / apply for the review of a club premises certificate under section 87 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described below.

Premises or club premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description: The Corner House, 54 Market Square,
Post town: St. Neots
Postcode (if known): PE19 2AA
Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known): HDC/PRE00192

Applicant details (tick which applies)

- a) An individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) or (B) below)
- b) A responsible authority (please complete (C) below)
- c) A member of the club to which this application relates (please complete (A) below)

(A) Details of individual applicant (fill in as applicable)

Details of individual applicant
Title: Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
First name:
Surname:
I am 18 years or over <input type="checkbox"/>
Current postal address if different from premises address:
Post town:
Postcode:
Daytime contact telephone number:
Email address:

(B) Details of other applicant

Details of other applicant
Name:
Address:
Telephone number:

Email address:

(C) Details of responsible authority applicant

Details of responsible authority applicant
Name: PC 446 Clare METCALFE
Address: Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Hinchingsbrooke Park, Huntingdon, PE29 6NP
Telephone number: [REDACTED]
Email address: licensingsouth@cambs.police.uk

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s) - please tick one or more boxes

1. The prevention of crime and disorder
2. Public safety
3. The prevention of public nuisance
4. The protection of children from harm

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 2):

The following bullet points are the basis for this request to review the premises licence being made:

1. Cambridgeshire Constabulary's Police Licensing and Huntingdonshire District Council Licensing Department have been following a stepped approach to engage with the Premises Licence Holder/Designated Premises Supervisor. Ongoing attempts to provide advice, firstly to ensure full compliance with the premises licence conditions, and secondly to see a reduction in the number of violent incidents associated with the premises has proven unsuccessful.
2. Concerns that the Premises Licence Holder/Designated Premises Supervisor is not focused on the promotion of the licensing objectives.
3. Security Industry Authority (SIA) offence identified that an unlicensed door man was employed at the premises to conduct licensed activities.

4. A number of recent Premises Licence breaches have been identified. Resulting in an ongoing criminal investigation being hindered.
5. Closure Notice issued due to non-compliance of CCTV condition.
6. Concerns that the premises designated smoking area does not comply with Smokefree (Premises & Enforcement) Regulations 2006 have been forwarded to Huntingdonshire District Council, as local authorities are responsible for enforcing this legislation.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 3):

The premises in question is The Corner House with the Premises Licence reference: HDC/PRE00192, issued by Huntingdonshire District Council. The premises is in a prominent position on St. Neots High Street, with the corner of the Market Square.

The licence authorises the carrying out the following licensable activities:

Opening Hours	Mon-Weds 11:00-23:20	Thurs-Fri 11:00-01:20	Sat 11:00-02:20	Sun 12:00-22:50
Regulated Entertainment & Supply of Alcohol	11:00-23:00	11:00-01:00	11:00-02:00	12:00-22:30
Late Night Refreshment		23:00-01:00	23:00-02:00	

On 24/11/2005, Mr Omar Hassani became the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) of the premises. The Corner Bar Ltd, became the Premises Licence Holder (PLH) on 30/09/2014, with Mr Hassani being the sole company Director.

In addition to the mandatory conditions there are only limited number of conditions attached to the licence. (Listed in Appendix 1.)

There have been a handful of intelligence items submitted over recent months and years detailing both open illegal drug use and drug dealing on the premises, stating staff are turning a blind eye to these activities. No further details about these reports are permitted to be disseminated.

A list of incidents and crimes associated with the premises since January 2020 is shown in Appendix 2.

From my various meetings and discussions with Mr Hassani I have concerns as to he takes his responsibilities as PLH and DPS seriously. Any actions and measures that have been implemented following previous police/HDC licensing advice has been very short lived, reverting back to bad practices and inadequate keeping of documentation.

Documentation such as comprehensive recording of staff details, incident log, staff training records, all documentation that would be expected of a competent operator.

A number of licence conditions have been identified as being breached on 27/11/21 and 01/01/22, which have been highlighted due to ongoing criminal investigations. I will expand on these breaches later.

On 03/08/2020 I had a telephone meeting with Mr Hassani following violent incidents associated with the premises. Issues regarding the outside seating area were identified by attending officers, and I raised them with Mr Hassani. He identified himself that he needed to reduce capacity in that outside area, introduce table service only, and the area required a dedicated member of staff to manage the area.

On 11/09/2020 following further violent incidents in early September 2020, Sarah Mardon (licensing officer with Huntingdonshire District Council) and I attended the premises for a meeting with Mr Hassani. During that meeting we viewed internal CCTV footage from the previous week and identified breaches of the then Covid Regulations, namely:

- customers not being seated whilst drinking.
- karaoke event taking place that breached the requirement for background-music only to be played, as not to encourage raised voices.
- Inadequate Test and Trace register being kept.
- No checks that customers are either signing in using the Test and Trace QR code or signing in using the paper register.

All of the identified areas for improvement are included in Appendix 3 – Email from Sarah Mardon to Mr Hassani following this meeting.

I am aware that Mr Hassani was also emailed by [REDACTED] – Manager of Huntingdonshire Business Against Crime (HBAC) scheme. Providing advice on the benefits of the pubwatch radio scheme, SIA companies, and progress on the imminent restarting of the St. Neots pubwatch meetings. All helpful advice on assisting him in operating a safe licensed premises, particularly during night-time economy hours.

I understand that after initially taking our advice in employing a reputable SIA company to carry out a risk assessment and to conduct the door staff duties, by 21/10/2020 this company was no longer being used. Additionally, after Mr Hassani had a trial with a HBAC/pubwatch radio he decided not to proceed in taking out a radio contract.

On 21/02/022 I highlighted my concerns to Huntingdon District Council (HDC) as to the legality of the premises designated smoking area, and whether it complies with the Smokefree (Premises & Enforcement) Regulations 2006. HDC are responsible for the enforcement of this legislation. (Appendix 4 – Photograph of designated smoking area).

When I spoke with Mr Hassani about these concerns, he expressed his surprise as he stated the brewery had authorised the use of this area for smoking in.

Upon my request HDC confirmed only the building itself was within the licensable area, and none of the adjacent outside space was licensed. During warmer weather it was identified that in 2020 and 2021 an area on the Market Square had been used by Mr Hassani to place tables and chairs, for the sole use by his customers. HDC notified me that The Corner House had applied for a Pavement Licence in August 2020, but it was an incomplete application. Despite requests for Mr Hassani to make contact with them, no contact had been made. Meaning the use of this outside area has been done for a number of years without having the correct Pavement Licence in place. Cambridgeshire County Council Highways Department have also confirmed that The Corner House doesn't hold a licence with them either to authorise the use of this land for that purpose.

Due to various Covid regulations being in place over the last two years, it has affected the type and number of incidents and crimes recorded over that period. The regulations have had a huge impact on licensed premises' ability to trade normally, restricting the activities that have been permitted at various points in time. Having said that, since January 2020 there have been a total of 17 crimes recorded that have been connected to the premises.

A breakdown of these crime reports:

- 4 x GBH
- 5 x ABH
- 2 x common assault
- 2 x criminal damage
- 1 x aggravated burglary
- 1 x Public Order offence
- 1 x theft
- 1 x Security Industry Authority offence

Of the above crimes, since May 2021 there have been:

- 3 x GBH
- 1 x ABH

- 2 x common assault
- 1 x criminal damage
- 1 x Security Industry Authority offence

Earlier on in my report I referred to two criminal investigations which highlighted a number of licence breaches. I wish to focus on these two crimes that occurred on 27/11/2021 and 01/01/2022. I have liaised at length with the investigation officer, who is the same both these incidents. The table below show the conditions breached, and reason for breach:

Date	Crime type	Reasons condition breached:
27/11/2021	GBH	<p><u>Original Conditions:</u> Condition 1 – unlicensed doorman being employed. Questionable as to whether there were two doormen on duty, as from viewing internal/external CCTV only can be seen.</p> <p><u>Conditions volunteered Oct 2013:</u> Condition 1 – CCTV not up to standard expected, shown incorrect timings (~15 minutes out). Condition 2 – customers can be viewed to exit and enter unchallenged after 00:30hrs.</p>
01/01/2022	GBH Criminal damage S3 Private Security Industry Act Offence	<p><u>Original Conditions:</u> Condition 1 – unlicensed doorman being employed.</p> <p><u>Conditions volunteered Oct 2013:</u> Condition 1 – CCTV not working between 28/12/21-18/01/22. Condition 2 – customers can be viewed to exit and enter unchallenged after 00:30hrs.</p>

As a result of the ongoing police investigation from 01/01/22, a suspect was identified, and has been charged with Criminal Damage, assault by beating and engaging in conduct not licensed by the Private Security Industry Act 2001.

After protracted enquiries were made by the investigating officer the suspect was identified as a male working as a doorman at the premises. Mr Hassani had naturally been approached by the investigating officer to provide details of his employee. Unfortunately, Mr Hassani could only provide a nickname and telephone number for the male, as he had failed to record details of this employee (who had been working for him for a significant number of months). He had also not conducted due diligence checks to ensure the male was registered to conduct this type of work. During the investigation it transpired this male was not licensed to carry out this type of work.

The investigating officer has disclosed all relevant information to the Security Industry Authority investigation team who are the primary authority for prosecuting offences

under the Private Security Industry Act 2001, including Section 5(1) individuals for employing unlicensed persons in licensable conduct.

On 28/02/22, an update was received from [REDACTED], from the Security Industry Authority, regarding his investigation. (Appendix 6 - Copy of email from [REDACTED] Investigations Officer, Security Industry Authority). Within the email he expressed his frustration that on a previous visit in 2017 to Mr. Hassani, he had provided advice to him about the requirement for him to obtain a 'Non Front Line' License if he was going to employ his own 'in-house' door security. It is evident from the latest police incident on 01/01/22, that Mr. Hassani has not actioned this advice, and as a result will be receiving a Warning letter for committing an offence under Private Security Industry Act 2001.

On 21/01/2022 at 11:00hrs I served a Closure Notice (made by under Section 19 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001) on Mr Hassani. (Appendix 5 – copy of Closure Notice). This was as a result of Mr Hassani disclosing to me that his CCTV was still not working correctly, and that the system needed examining by a security company, who were unable to attend for a number for days. Therefore, this was in breach of his CCTV condition. The Closure Notice would have meant there would have been no authority in place for the alcohol to be served at the premises until the problem had been rectified. Following this Closure Notice being served, Mr Hassani was able to get an engineer out that afternoon to fix the CCTV system. Once I had been provided with evidence of the engineer's attendance at 14:30hrs, I provided Mr Hassani with a cancellation of the Closure Notice.

Summary

As evidenced above there are significant concerns over the poor management style of Mr Hassani, and his inability to perform his role as DPS and as Premises Licence Holder. The issues have been ongoing for a number of years and despite receiving ongoing professional advice from myself, the HDC licensing officer, and also historical advice from the SIA investigations officer, such advice is not actioned, or any promised changes to operating practices are short lived, and they soon revert back to being inadequate. This results in a disregard for the licensing objectives, breaches of the premises licence, and the reoccurrence of violent incidents, both inside and outside of the premises. For such a relatively small licensed premises it has over the years, had a disproportionately high amount of violent incidents attributed to it, putting increased pressures of policing resources and that of ambulance and hospital personnel.

Recommendations

I do not believe that this issue can be solved by simply requesting the removal and replacement of Mr Hassani as DPS. There are clearly entrenched issues with the way Mr Hassani chooses to operate the business. Whilst he is making decisions over the day to day running of the business as the Premises Licence Holder, I believe that there will be repeated undermining of the licensing objectives, resulting in continued incidents of violence.

Therefore, I respectfully ask the Sub-Licensing Committee to revoke the premises licence.

This concludes the representation for Cambridgeshire Constabulary.
(Appendix 7 - Delegation of Responsibilities by the Chief Officer of Police).

Have you made an application for review relating to the premises before?

Yes No

If yes, please state the date of that application:

If you have made representations before relating to the premises please state what they were and when you made them:

1. I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate
2. I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in, or in connection with, this application.


Privacy Notice

All personal information that you provide us is managed in accordance with our Privacy Policy. Please visit the [Privacy Notice for Community- Regulation and Enforcement](#) on our website where you can find out information about how we handle your information and your rights of access.

Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

Signature:



Date: 01/03/2022

Capacity: Cambridgeshire Constabulary Police Licensing Officer.

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6):

Post town:

Postcode:
Telephone number:
If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an email address: Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

Notes for Guidance

1. A responsible authority includes the local police, fire and rescue authority and other statutory bodies which exercise specific functions in the local area.
2. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
3. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
4. The application form must be signed.
5. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.

This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.

APPENDIX

1. Premises Licence Conditions.

CONDITIONS CONSISTENT WITH THE OPERATING SCHEDULE

Conditions agreed with the Police at variation July 2013

1. The entrances and exits to the premises used by the public will be constantly manned whilst open for licensable activities on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 21:00 hours by a minimum of two (2) door supervisors who are licensed by the Security Industry Authority.
2. Entry/exit supervision is to be maintained unit 30 minutes after the Licensing activities cease. Any variation to the level specified is to be approved by the Chief of Police of the Licensing Area.

CONDITIONS VOLUNTEERED AT VARIATION OCTOBER 2013

1. CCTV at the premises to be maintained in a efficient working order. The CCTV system shall operate at all times when the premises are open to the public and the quality and standard or recorded image must meet the requirement of the Police and local authority to enable positive identification of individuals with recorded images being retained for 31 days.
2. No member of the public shall be admitted or readmitted to the premises after 00:30 hours.
3. Children and minors are not permitted on the premises without adult supervision.
4. Provision of sufficient first aid boxes and accident reporting procedures.

Appendix

2. List of incidents and crimes associated with premises since January 2020 – to date...

Date	Time	Location	Inc Ref:	Athens crime Ref:	Crime/Inc. type	Comments	Concerns identified from investigation notes	Condition breach identified
28/01/2022	22:33hrs	Outside The Corner House	CC-28012022-0480	35/6818/22	Common Assault	Intoxicated male outside being aggressive toward door staff. Pushing and shoving, male calmed down, apologised and left the premises.		
01/01/2022	01:40hrs	Inside/Outside The Corner House		35/281/22 x 3	GBH/Criminal Damage/S3 SIA offence	Unlicensed door man suspected of assaulting a customer, pushed him outside the doors, causing criminal damage to parker vehicle. Suspect arrested, under investigation.	Internal CCTV not working (between 28th December – 18th January). Unlicensed door man being used. Door man suspected of GBH and criminal damage. Customers seen to be entering and exiting premises unchallenged after 00:30hrs.	<u>Original Conditions</u> Breach of condition 1. Conditions volunteered Oct. 2013 Breach of condition 1. Breach of condition 2.
27/11/2022	00:46hrs	Inside/Outside The Corner House		35/81901/22	GBH	Initial issues inside premises, whereby victim was pushed over. Just after that the victim left premises, immediately followed by suspect who has then assaulted victim. Following the assault the suspect and accompanying group return back inside the pub.	Upon viewing internal and external footage it appears only one doorman on duty. Doorman doesn't appear to provide any first aid to victim who is unresponsive on pavement. Description matches that of unlicensed door man. Customers seen to be entering and exiting premises unchallenged after 00:30hrs. CCTV system identified not to be displaying.	<u>Original Conditions</u> Breach of condition 1. Conditions volunteered Oct. 2013 Breach of condition 1. Breach of condition 2.
16/10/2021	00:15hrs	Outside The Corner House	CC-16102021-0011	35/70709/21	Common Assault	Initial assault took place inside the premises.		
16/10/2021	00:15hrs	Inside The Corner House	CC-16102021-0011	35/70706/21	ABH	Initial incident took place inside premises, parties continued argument upon	Recording officer stated victims and involved parties were extremely intoxicated.	
19/05/2021	20:35hrs	Inside The Corner House	CC-19052021-0505	35/70796/21	GBH	Male received GBH injuries following being assaulted inside the premises. Suspect identified, investigation with CPS.		
05/09/2020	23:55hrs	Outside The Corner House	CC-05092020-0579	35/61331/20	Section 4 Public Order Act	Initial fight occurs inside premises, and multiple people become involved and it spills out into the Market Square, male arrested, charged Public Order Offence.		
05/09/2020	23:55hrs	Outside The Corner House	CC-05092020-0579	35/60327/20	ABH	Part of violent disorder which emanates from the premises, victim assaulted by unknown male.		

Appendix

2. Continuation of list of incidents and crimes associated with premises since January 2020 – to date...

Date	Time	Location	Inc. Ref.	Athena crime Ref.	Crime/Inc. type	Comments	Concerns identified from investigation notes	Condition breach identified
05/09/2020	23:55hrs	Inside The Corner House	CC-05092020-0579	35/60326/20	ABH	CCTV control informed police of an large scale fight in the Market Square. On police	Violent disorder in Market Square emanated from premises.	
02/09/2020	18:00hrs	Inside The Corner House		35/59548/20	Aggravated business burglary	Suspect arrested for offence, no further action, due to evidential difficulties.	Victim statement not provided.	
12/08/2020	23:05hrs	Inside The Corner House		35/54338/20	Criminal Damage	Drunk male entered premises, upon being refused service and being asked to leave has caused damage to two chairs.		
02/08/2020	00:05hrs	Inside The Corner House	CC-02082020-0007 CC-02082020-0014	35/51204/20 35/51313/20	ABH x2 Assault emergency worker Racially aggravated Public order offence	Subject is barred from premises but apparently forced entry, prior to assaulting the first victim inside, suspect left moments later and then went onto assault a further two	Police had concerns over apparent lack of control over customers in the outside seating area in the Market Square.	
01/08/2020	19:02hrs	Inside The Corner House	CC-01082020-0432		Rowdy/Nuisance	Male had been drinking in pub most of the afternoon and upon being refused service is refusing to leave and is obstructing the doors. Male left of own accord.	Intoxication level.	
17/07/2020	23:33hrs	Outside The Corner House	CC-17072020-0631		Rowdy/inconsiderate/assault	CCTV control have identified a disturbance happening outside		
12/07/2020	01:00hrs	Inside The Corner House		35/45873/20	Theft	Reported theft of handbag from table		
14/02/2020	22:55hrs	Inside The Corner House	CC-14022020-0555	35/11573/20	GBH	Assault took place inside premises, victim received GBH injuries to face. Offender identified, charged with GBH.	During investigation it came to light that only one door man was on duty.	Original Conditions Breach of condition 1.

APPENDIX

3. Email from Sarah Mardon following meeting with Mr Hassani on 11/09/2020.

Dear Omar

Thank you for meeting with us on Friday, I realise there was a lot to take in.

Below are the points for action we discussed, and I have given them a time scale, these points also include steps to ensure you are covid secure.

Implement a last entry policy of 23:00 Friday & Saturday – **immediate**

1. Investigate new door staff company, HBAC may be able to assist – I know [REDACTED] has already been in touch with you, and provided contacts for reputable companies. Therefore, I will include action 3 below.
2. Make contact with reputable companies, and arrange a risk assessment for the premises – **7 days**
3. Temporarily reduce trading time to 00:00 on Fridays and Saturdays - volunteered
4. CCTV control room contact – PC [REDACTED] provided you the contact number for the CCTV control room. [REDACTED] has also provided you with information regarding the HBAC radios', and re-starting the Pubwatch group.
5. Carry out full review of your Covid Risk assessment and implement findings – **7 days**
6. Source more signage re Covid and distancing as per RA – **7 days**
7. Implement a meet and greet person (not door staff), to welcome customer, and provide information regarding your expectation of them, provide a script if necessary. – **7 days**
8. No vertical drinking inside, all customers must be seated - **Immediate**
9. Consider re instating using booking system for tables, particularly on Friday and Saturday evening.
10. Test & Trace, written records need to be kept in a secure manner and with sufficient detail such as the date on each page – **By Friday 18th**
11. Get ordering App up and running, this will help with 11 above. Only use App during Fri & Saturday - **ASAP**
12. Brief door staff and the beginning of each shift and keep a records of who is working, and provide and easily access or door staff.
13. Entertainment should be kept to background music only, no Karaoke or disco lighting.
14. Implement thorough cleaning regime, including all touch points, doors and handles, chair backs, toilets including taps and door locks

There is lots of guidance and advice available to help with implementing the Covid secure items. Below I have included some helpful links.

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/working-safely/risk-assessment.htm>

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5eb96e8e86650c278b077616/working-safely-during-covid-19-restaurants-pubs-takeaway-services-200910.pdf>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

https://huntingdonshire.gov.uk/media/4782/pub-guidance-leaflet-sept.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1GKtyCyRpulxheC_tmLYlrL1ZM_6wkeGU6bmOwesiuAMi6q0n7BKjqc6c

I know with a Police presence on Market Square this weekend things were better. But you still need to make these improvements to your operation, particularly with regards to Covid.

Please keep me updated on you progress this week, and I will come in again on Friday to see how things are going.

Kind regards

Sarah Mardon

Licensing Officer

Huntingdonshire District Council

Pathfinder House

St. Mary's Street

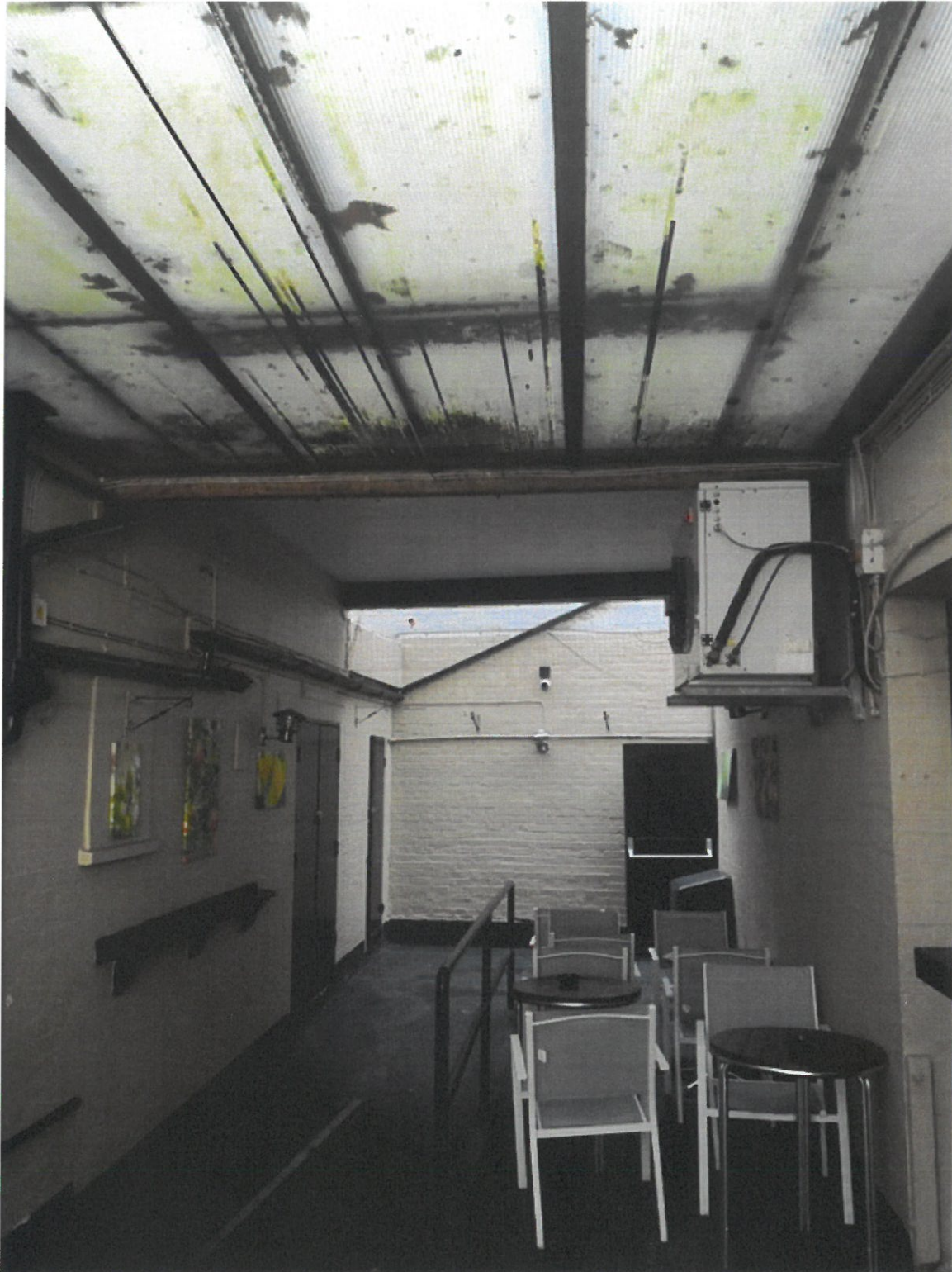
Huntingdon

PE29 3TN

www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/licensing

APPENDIX

4. Photograph of designated smoking area



APPENDIX

5. Copy of Closure Notice

**CLOSURE NOTICE MADE UNDER SECTION 19 OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND POLICE ACT 2001**

Date & Time of the closure notice: 11:00hrs 21/01/2022

Authorised Officer making the Notice: PC 446 Clare Metcalfe

Signature of Officer: 

of Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Name and Address of affected premises: The Corner House, 54 Market Square.
St. Neots, Cambridgeshire. PE19 2AA.

Alleged unlicensed use of Premises: Mr Hassani has stated that his CCTV is not working. He has said the system needs examining by a security company, who are not able to attend for a number of days. Therefore, is not in accordance with the conditions of an authorisation for the sale of alcohol, namely breaching condition 1:

- *CCTV at the premises to be maintained in an efficient working order. The CCTV system shall operate at all times when the premises are open to the public and the quality and standard of recorded image must meet the requirement of the Police and local authority to enable positive identification of individuals with recorded images being retained for 31 days.*

Steps that may be taken to end the alleged unlicensed use of the premises, or to prevent it from re-occurring:

Ensure CCTV is fixed to ensure above condition is being adhered too.

The person to whom the closure notice has been served: Omar Hassani

Signature: Emailed to person, read receipt requested.

Name: Omar Hassani

Date: 21/01/2022

Notes:

1. A police officer or an authorised officer from the local authority, has decided to issue this closure notice under the terms of section 19 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 ("the 2001 Act"). The notice alleges that the said premise has been operating illegally without a license to sell alcohol in contravention of sections 136 of the Licensing Act 2003 as an unauthorised sale of alcohol. It also mentions the actions which may be taken by the owner or manager of the premises to end the unauthorised sale of alcohol, or to prevent it from re-occurring.
2. **Section 20 of the 2001 Act - Closure Order**
Your attention is drawn to section 20 of the 2001 Act. This provides that the police, or as the case may be the local authority, can take action against the said premises by applying to a justice of the peace at the local magistrates' court for a closure order if the unauthorised sale of alcohol (as alleged in this closure notice) is continuing, or there is a reasonable likelihood that the premises will be so used in the future. The application for a closure order must be made not less than 7 days, and not more than 6 months, after the date on which this closure notice was served.
3. After an application for a closure order is made, the justice of the peace may issue a summons requiring the applicant, and also the person or persons on whom the closure notice was served, to attend a hearing at the court on a specified date and time. At the hearing the court will consider the applicant's complaint against the said premises and decide whether a closure order should or should not be made.
4. In accordance with the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, and under the law on human rights, you are entitled to be legally represented at the hearing and to make representations to the court before any decision is taken.

Appeals - Section 24 of the 2001 Act

5. An appeal against a decision by the magistrates' court to grant a closure order, or a decision to refuse an application for a closure order, can be made by an affected person to the Crown Court within 21 days.

Enforcement Powers and Offences - Section 25 of the 2001 Act.

6. It is an offence for a person, without reasonable excuse, to permit a premise to be open in contravention of a closure order made by the magistrate's court. Any person found guilty of such an offence will be liable to a fine not exceeding £20,000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to both.
7. It is also an offence for a person who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with any other terms of a closure order made by the court, or does an act which contravenes those other terms. Any person convicted of this offence is liable to a fine not exceeding £5,000, or to three months imprisonment, or to both.
8. Police officers and authorised officers from the local authority have the power to enter the said premises at "any reasonable time", and do anything reasonably necessary to secure compliance with the closure order (for example, to board up the premises). However, when exercising this power, the constable or the officer must produce evidence of his authority to enter and also his identity before entering the premises, if asked to do so by the owner (or the occupier or the person in charge of the premises).
9. It is an offence for a person to intentionally obstruct police officers or authorised local authority officers from exercising these powers. Any person convicted of obstructing a police officer is liable to a fine not exceeding £5,000, or to one month's imprisonment, or to both. Any person convicted of obstructing an authorised local authority officer is liable to a fine not exceeding £5,000.

APPENDIX

6. Copy of email from [REDACTED], Investigations Officer, Security Industry Authority.

Good morning Clare,

As discussed, I visited Mr Omar Tahiri HASSINI, stated Owner of CORNER HOUSE in St Neots in Cambridgeshire, on the back of the enquiries we have also made in relation to Mr [REDACTED] on Thursday 17th February 2022 at around 1330hrs.

Mr HASSINI confirmed to me that he was the sole employer of all of his Door Supervisors including [REDACTED] and that he inducted them as PAYE. I concluded and explained to HASSINI that as this was the case he was committing an offence under s.3(2)(f) of the Private Security Industry Act 2001 (PSIA 2001) in that 'He is the employer of an individual who in the course of any employment of his with that employer carries out any designated activities subject to additional controls.' He requires at least a Non Front Line License (NFL) to continue to employ his own 'In-House' Door Supervisors. I needed to confirm his status with the Company who owned the lease.

The frustrating thing is that although it was on 24/05/2017 I had previously visited Mr HASSINI and explained then that he would need to have a NFL to fulfil his wish of eventually not utilising the then Deploying Company KMB Security and Cleaning Ltd, whom he stated he was having issues with. We became involved in this set of enquiries due to an alleged unlicensed Door Supervisor then, running away from me and police during some joint work.

This will be a minor offence and will be dealt with by way of a warning letter and a discussion will be had today with HASSINI to establish how he will deploy Door Supervisors to his venue.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Investigations Officer – East Team

Inspections and Enforcement

Security Industry Authority

APPENDIX

7. Delegation of Responsibilities by the Chief Officer of Police.



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

Licensing Act 2003

Delegation of responsibilities by the Chief Officer of Police

In accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 I hereby delegate authority to Cambridgeshire Constabulary Licensing Officers to develop policies and procedures and to exercise all powers vested in the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Such delegation to include the power to delegate specific tasks to licensing Constables and support staff.

This delegation shall remain in force unless otherwise notified.

Signed

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Chief Constable.

Nick Dean
Chief Constable
Cambridgeshire Constabulary
1 October 2018