

Thursday 24th May 2012

To whom this may concern,

Today we received a licensing review from Peterborough City Council for the following premises :

COCO 11-13 Broadway, Peterborough, PE1 1SQ

I would like to appeal against this. Please see my argument below.

1 We were going to hold a lap dancing event on 16th May 2012. We received a call an hour before to advise us that we could not go ahead with the event, therefore we cancelled the event. As you can appreciate we had sold tickets and therefore people still attended. I would like to make it clear that we did not go ahead with dances or any sexual activity and all tickets were refunded on the door. On the evening police officers did attend the venue to check we had not gone ahead with the event and went away satisfied. Also CCTV was checked by the licensing officer Grahame Robinson and Darren Dolby.

2 Police recommended for our licence to be suspended on grounds of serious crime, however I would like to point out that in 7 years of trading, COCO has never had any issues with crime or other offences. Apart from a few minor issues which were resolved with a minor variation on our licence. On the night in question Monday 21st MAY 2012 there was an incident that took place. The people involved were drinking on the premises. They were told to leave because an argument had erupted in the premises. This was reported in the local paper, The Evening Telegraph and the actual part of the street where the incident occurred was photographed and published. (Please find attached article dated Tuesday 22nd May 2012.)The incident actually took place out on the street. As you can appreciate we are a club and incidents like this do happen occasionally. As you can see from our CCTV staff immediately tried to escort the offenders of the premises. For example SHOOTERS had 168 incidents in a year before it was even considered for their licence to be suspended and numerous incidents occur in an out of HALO &GHOST and all other venues. This should be duly noted from City Link Radio.

I would also like to state that James Burke, the boy who was seriously injured actually provoked the attack after approaching the offendantes outside the venue and ripping his top off to participate in the fight. Not in any way shape or form does COCO have anything to do with this matter as it is an incident that erupted between customers. This is clearly seen on CCTV that was obtained by the police. Also please note that were advised by a Police officer Mark Pearce that this incident would not affect our licence. We have been in contact with James's family and given our genuine support and a member of our staff is in continuous contact with James's Sister. It was stated to us by Grahame Robinson that James's family were members of the travelling community, although we will strongly argue this as the family are well known amongst our staff, and James's is friends with all members of staff and well known by many as he is an employee of O'NEILS on Broadway.

As a business we are fully supportive of James and his family and we understand the effect this may have on the community in respect of people worrying that another incident like this could occur but I would like to point out that once again we are a club and issues do arise.

3 There was an incident that occurred that we were advised by the licensing officer to do a minor variation which we adhered to. We try our very best to work closely with the licensing officer to comply with all rules and regulations and thought to date we had complied with this.

4 In regards to our cctv we have were told to install two more cameras, in which we worked through the night to ensure this was put in place with immediate effect. The head of CCTV at Thorpe wood police station advised us that we had very good system and rates us 8 out of 10 when she collected data from our system after the event had taken place. This confuses me as to why in the application to review our licence it states and I quote 'CCTV installation and coverage is deemed unsatisfactory and in direct contradiction to conditions set out within the premises license.' Please find a five 5 minute recording from our CCTV to see for yourself the quality.

In the report it was stated that illegal unlicensed activity occurred as our license clearly states no alcohol to be sold after 2am and we take responsibility in this matter as the last drink to be sold was at 4 or 5 minutes past 2 and the member of staff who sold the drink has been given a verbal warning. The drink was served to a customer who had already been drinking in the venue and the front doors were locked as it was last orders.

We do not feel that will be a reprisal to the incident and would like you to strongly re access the application to suspend our licence. We are happy to co operate in all means and form to ensure all rules and regulations are again adhered to.

Thanks for your time in considering this appeal.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Five arrested as man is left fighting for life

By **MATTHEW REVILLE**

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A MAN is fighting for his life in hospital after an alleged night-time attack that led to five men being arrested.

Paramedics found two men covered in blood following a suspected assault outside the Coco bar in Broadway, Peterborough city centre, shortly after 2.30am yesterday.

Police say a 21-year-old man was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital with potentially life-threatening injuries.

Another man, aged 59, was also taken to Peterborough City Hospital. His injuries were described as serious but not life-threatening.

Cambridgeshire Police arrested five men aged between 19 and 23 on suspicion of affray and held them in Thorpe Wood Police Station for questioning.

Onlookers watched as police officers and Scene of Crime Officers cordoned off the pavement outside Coco from 10am until 5pm yesterday as they searched for clues to help their investigation.

A spokeswoman for Cambridgeshire police said: "We were called at 2.44am to reports of concern for a man outside Coco on Broadway.

"A 21-year-old man was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital with serious possibly life-threatening injuries and a 59 year old man was taken to Peterborough City Hospital with serious injuries.

"A 23, 21, 20 and two 19-year-old men were arrested on suspicion of



PROBE: Police investigate the scene outside Coco after an alleged assault yesterday morning.

affray. They are in custody.

"We are working through to try and establish what has happened by looking at CCTV and carrying out forensic examinations at the scene."

Police have declined to say whether any weapons were thought to be involved or if they were searching for more people in connection with the alleged assault, when asked by *the ET*.

The incident has shocked people who work and shop in the city centre, who had to avoid the police cor-

don.

The closed area initially included Talking Heads Hair Studio, in Broadway, but the cordon was restricted to the pavement surrounding Coco at around noon.

Employee John Tirone said: "We had to rearrange appointments.

"It was really busy when the police got here but nobody seemed to know what was going on. It's usually quiet down here; we've not had anything as nasty as this before."

Jan Osborne, of Cowbit, works in

Broadway and said: "It's worrying. There are young and old in this area, though I'm not sure how many people are here at 2.30am."

An East of England Ambulance Trust spokeswoman said: "We were called to reports of an assault at 2.48am.

"There were two people covered in blood, and police were on the scene. One male had a mouth injury and one male had a head injury."

Anyone with information should call Cambridgeshire police on 101.

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