Fw: Various anti-social issues in Millfield.

Laura Kelsey <laura.kelsey@peterborough.gov.uk>

Mon 28/09/2020 16:55

To: Terri Martin <terri.martin@peterborough.gov.uk>; Darren Dolby <darren.dolby@peterborough.gov.uk>; Gareth Brighton <Gareth.Brighton@peterborough.gov.uk>

14 attachments (28 MB)

WhatsApp Video 2020-09-27 at 22.51.22.mp4; between paddy power and co op.jpg; bottles in the gutters.jpg; front of pboro wine 2.jpg; front of pboro wine.jpg; Not sure.jpg; outside paddy power.jpg; WhatsApp Image 2020-09-27 at 22.51.21 (2).jpeg; outside paddy power.jpg; WhatsApp Image 2020-09-27 at 22.51.21 (1).jpeg; WhatsApp Image 2020-09-27 at 22.51.21 (3).jpeg; WhatsApp Image 2020-09-27 at 22.51.21 (4).jpeg; WhatsApp Image 2020-09-27 at 22.51.21 (5).jpeg; WhatsApp Image 2020-09-27 at 22.51.21 (5).jpeg;

Dear All,

Please see the images attached and the comments below concerning the Millfield area which I believe provides evidence that alcohol continues to contribute to the ASB in the Can Do area. Mr Thomas has consented to this information to be shared with your department to highlight the current issues and as supporting evidence for the Licensing Policy consultation. Can you advise if there is a set distance in which alcohol purchased can be consumed off the premises?

As previously mentioned, we will soon be consulting on re-implementing a PSPO for the Millfield, New England, Eastfield and Embankment area to tackle alcohol-related and other ASB. Once implemented it would be good if we could get together with other relevant services to discuss the issues in the area and identify actions to complement the enforcement of the PSPO which can help improve some of the quality of life issues in the area.

Kind regards,

Laura

Laura Kelsey Senior Problem Solving Officer Prevention and Enforcement Service Communities & Safety Sand Martin House Bittern Way Fletton Quays Peterborough PE2 8TY

Email: <u>laura.kelsey@peterborough.gov.uk</u> Telephone: (01733) 453563 **Please note my working days are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**

From: Anti Social Behaviour <antisocialbehaviour@peterborough.gov.uk>
Sent: 28 September 2020 10:11
To: Laura Kelsey <laura.kelsey@peterborough.gov.uk>
Subject: Fw: Various anti-social issues in Millfield.

Prevention and Enforcement Service Communities & Safety Sand Martin House Bittern Way Fletton Quays Peterborough PE2 8TY

Email: antisocialbehaviour@peterborough.gov.uk

Telephone: (01733) 863853

From: David Thomas

Sent: 27 September 2020 23:21To: Anti Social Behaviour <antisocialbehaviour@peterborough.gov.uk>Subject: Various anti-social issues in Millfield.

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Fao, David Lister/Laura Kelsey

I'm David Thomas and I am the manager at Ace Electra Amusements, that's the amusement arcade in Milfield that opened in 2007. I've owned a business in Milfield for the best part of 20 years and I used to sit on the Milfield business/residents association back in the early 2000s.

In those days the issues in the area was decline, shops closing down and/or turning into takeaways etc. the Evening Telegraph even did a survey in 2003 and found 35 takeaways on Lincoln road alone, when there were only 7 takeaways 5 years before that. In the last decade the area has changed again with off licenses and little mini marts being the issue. While the area is busy and not many empty shops it has a distasteful appeal, well unless you need another beer in your hand in the next 200 yards. I say that because Milfield has so many licensed premises you're not more than 200 yards from the next venue. Seems madness to me and people I talk to all say the same thing, you see 5 new shops open in the space of a year, some you see don't have many customers, and then you see 5 more open up next year, and we all ask ourselves.... Why do more keep opening??? And more?? And more?? Business is business and while people need shops to get things, there never seems to be a plan in place that suit the area as a whole. I've said this many times before but a vibrant centre has many things to suit everyone, back in the day you would go up town or a township like Millfield, draw out some money from the bank, do some shoe shopping, get a new shirt or sweater, grab a coffee or lunch then get the weekly shop which might be from several different stores. You get the picture, however they've all but gone now and Millfield is just takeaways and mini-marts. A quick side point: Paul Bristow MP is currently trying to stop Barclays Millfield branch from closing as they have decided close that branch, which would leave only TSB and Natwest as the HSBC closed after a couple of armed robberies.

There is another issue which I've raised previously with the licensing team at PCC, Under the Alcohol licensing Act 2003 and under previous acts, Off license simply means buy in store and consume <u>Off</u> the premises, this also includes a set distance away from the store but I can't remember the exact distance. However if you pop down to Milfield on any given day you'll dozens of bottles and cans strewn down the road, often in the doorways of other shops and in the gutters, posing a hazard to motorists and pedestrians alike, not to mention the eye sore it looks every day. In recent months it's got worse, obviously Covid is causing problems in the whole of society but I don't see as bad when driving around other areas.

While I know complaining to and about the council is not going to do me any favours it wouldn't be the first time and I'm not the only one to say it but.... I have felt the council seem happy to take the licensing, planning and admin fees and then give Milfield a wide birth. However to be fair a couple years I made a complaint and a licensing officer did come out to review the problems we were experiencing at the time, namely about 2 to 3 years ago there was a spate of stabbings outside the front of our business. 3 major incidents in 4 weeks, 2 of them in broad daylight, one old drunk guy stabbed outside Iceland while sat on the bench, week before that or the week after there was a mass brawl starting in a restaurant further down the road, and the night time incident was also a brawl all where alcohol related incidents.

Our own business has no alcohol on the premises (by law, order of the gambling Act 2005) however unlike a pub where the landlord has the responsibility to remove drunk people from the premises, the arcade doesn't

Email - Terri Martin - Outlook

have any written legislation that says we have to remove drunks from the arcade and we have no power over people drinking outside our premises, so with all the street drinking we have a continuous problem of having to check people's breath or watch how they walk and move to know if they're safe to be on the premises. We have records of staff and customer interactions which should include staff talking to customers about their problems with gambling and self exclusions etc... but our records are usually full of customers being asked to leave because the staff feel unsafe, and I have records going back several years showing how the amount has increased year on year where as we used to see one or two and not really think about it enough to include in the records. This matter has been raised with both the PCC and the Gambling Commission.

To make matters worse there is the unspoken ghetto effect then has happened in Milfield in recent years, on a daily basis you will see the same faces of people wondering around with nothing to do, long before Covid and beyond, in the daytime whole families just standing on corners having their meeting despite social distancing restrictions. In the evening and by day you'll groups of males from various nationalities hanging around or doing business (and I don't mean trading stocks and shares either) Often you'll see young girls heading to the mini-mart for another pack of cigs/condoms before returning back to work on a street corner and several homeless people sleeping in the doorways which we didn't have before in Milfield. I know I paint a nasty, distasteful picture of Milfield but when the councillors and council employees have all gone home from their 9-5 it's what we still see and are left with.

I'm happy to discuss at length in detail any of these issues or if I had more time I could write this one better, I did rush it as I know you're waiting to get things off to the public consultation.

I've included a few pictures and a video taken over several different times.

Yours David Thomas.

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