

Reviews of Premises Licenses/ Club Premises Certificates

1. Kukui Nightclub, 42-43 Park End Street, Oxford – 26 February 2009

The Review of the Premises Licence was requested by Thames Valley Police; Who explained that they had serious concerns about the way in which the venue was currently being managed. The review had been triggered by two serious “glassing” incidents, coupled with a number of thefts, assaults and episodes of disorder at the premises, all within a very short period of time. As a result, the Police submitted that the capacity of the venue should be reduced from 700 to 550, as it was believed that people being in close proximity to each other was more likely to result in scuffles and arguments. There was concern about security measures at the premises, which needed to be more proactive, and also about the loss of the Radio Link radio that had not been reported to the Police for 4 weeks. The Police also had worries about public safety, especially while customers were queuing for admittance to the premises. The Police confirmed that they believed a minimum of 7 door staff should be employed.

A representation was also made by an Interested Party who resides in the vicinity. The interested Parties had concerns about a Public Nuisance caused by persons frequenting the Premises.

Having taken all the representations into account the Sub Committee were satisfied that the evidence showed a number of recent incidents at Kukui which conflicted with the licensing objectives of preventing crime and disorder and promoting public safety.

The Sub Committee were satisfied that there had been failures in management which had contributed to some of these incidents and that certain of the measures proposed by Thames Valley Police would help to address these failures.

The Sub Committee concluded that it is necessary in the interests of promoting public safety and preventing crime and disorder to modify the premises licence conditions.

The Sub Committee were not satisfied that there was sufficient evidence at this time to justify a condition reducing the capacity limit of the premises.

2. Sid's Kitchen (Street Trader), St Aldates, , Oxford – 29 January 2009

This Review of the Premises Licence was requested by an Interested Party. The Interested Party explained that Christ Church College was concerned by the consequences of the trader's van being parked close to Tom Tower gate. This gate was the only entrance to the college during the evening and night. There had been instances of students, residents and visitors using the gate being threatened and intimidated by customers of the van. He agreed that the

van had been moved, although he felt that it was too early to say what the outcome would be. He had no wish to prevent the van owner from earning a living, and he felt that the van provided a good service, but he believed that it would be better for the van to be located away from the College.

The Sub Committee took into account all the representations received. They particularly noted that the street trading site used by Mr Keshmiri had recently been moved, with agreement of the Street Trading Officer, to a new position further away from the Tom Tower gate.

The Sub Committee were concerned about the incidents of nuisance and disorder described in the representation from Christ Church College but found that it was likely that these incidents were a result of a general problem of nuisance and disorder in the city centre and could not necessarily be attributed to Mr Keshmiri's premises. In fact, Mr Keshmiri appeared to be doing all he reasonably could to combat the problems.

As the concerns of the College focused on the proximity of Mr Keshmiri's premises to the College gate and the premises site had now moved away from the gate, further time should be allowed to assess what effect this would have.

For these reasons the Sub Committee decided that it was neither proportionate nor necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives to take any of the steps set out in section 88(4) of the Licensing Act 2003 against Mr Keshmiri's premises licence.

Reviews pending.

Mood Music Cocktail Bar, 29-31 George Street

Requested by Thames Valley Police

Westgate Stores, 1 Botley Road, Oxford

Requested by Thames Valley Police