

## APPENDIX A - Amendment to original review

### **Amendment to licence review for Monty's, 69 Castle Rd by Amanda O'Reilly on behalf of a residents collective, supported by Castle Rd & Area Residents Association.**

Monty's Bar and Restaurant has deteriorated over the last 18 months with drunk clientele allowed to shout in the street, excessive noise and now a violent, unprovoked attack on a resident.

A collective of 31 residents (26 living on Castle Rd and 5 on Great Southsea Street) agreed a set of four required amendments to the Licence for Monty's Bar & Restaurant:

- Removal of permission for Live and Amplified Music (currently under a noise abatement order that was breached on the 17th June)
- Require constant use of the internal and external CCTV when open with access provided to PCC Officers and the police on request, in line with the clause in Delaney's licence
- The manager to hold a personal licence
- Clarity that the pavement is not a licenced area and drinks must not be taken outside

This licence review was posted to PCC at lunchtime on the 17th June.

On the evening of Saturday the 17th June Monty's breached their noise abatement order with blaring, thumping music and large groups of customers shouting and screaming in the street. The staff and management took no action to address this and had no control over the drunk clientele who were causing a public nuisance. A number of neighbours put noise complaints into PCC.

This is far from the first time we have suffered this behaviour from Monty's and the residents of Castle Rd have been repeatedly raising concerns about social disorder and that we felt unsafe to both the police and to licensing.

Unfortunately Saturday night our fears were realised and my husband was violently assaulted by a large group of Monty's customers. My husband stepped out of our front door asking the noisy group to move away from our home and back to the front of the bar. Then, just three steps from our door he was violently headbutted. This was completely unprovoked, my husband was in flip flops with his hands in his pockets. He suffered a horrific and sustained attack with a barrage of punches from a large group of men and women. The police were called and deemed it suitable for the armed police because it was an attack by a large group on an individual. Fortunately we had the whole assault captured on high grade CCTV and a neighbour opposite also filmed the attack on her mobile describing it as horrific and comparable to a pack of hounds on a fox. The case is now with CID, they know the main perpetrators and are seeking multiple arrests for assault.

Shockingly the manager did not close the venue after this dreadful incident but continued the party with the clientele shouting in the street, using the most appalling language and behaving in a truly disgusting manner. This continued until 12.40am. This is not a one off party that got

out of hand, residents have seen the decline of Monty's over the last eighteen months and it has now reached rock bottom. The residents have had enough.

This has been a pattern for this bar under several different names over the last 12 years. The residents now feel the only way to break the constant cycle of antisocial behaviour and remove the ongoing threat of violence is to:

- Remove the alcohol licence from the premises
- Reduced the opening hours to match Delaney's who close at 10.30pm (a recently issued licence that deemed later opening to be unacceptable in this residential street)

We understand the owner is now closing Monty's on the 16th July, however the residents will still continue the Licence Review with all six points because this is the licence that will be passed onto the next lessee and the problems will simply continue under a different name. The manager told a neighbour that there has already been a visit from an interested party who has a bar on Palmerston Rd and would be planning to make Monty's a "Shot Bar" which, if true, would be completely unacceptable.

The owner clearly has no consideration for the residents. Castle Rd is 80% residential and has a set of development plans agreed by the local residents, businesses and ward Councillors that focus on Community, Family and Green Spaces. We cannot continue to have a poorly managed, alcohol focused venue that operates more like a club than a restaurant. Castle Rd is not Palmerston Rd and we must protect this Southsea gem in a conservation area from becoming a concrete pub with a reputation for violence and antisocial behaviour.