

Licensing Hearing Panel – Supplementary agenda

A meeting of the Licensing Hearing Panel will be held on:

Date: 25 April 2023

Time: 9.30am

Venue: Meeting Room 1 - Level 3, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham
ME4 4TR

Items

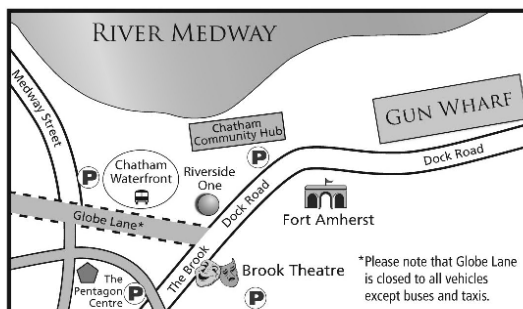
- 6 Application for review of a Premises Licence in respect of Jollof Lounge, 44 High Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4DS (Pages 3 - 6)**

Additional evidence in respect of Jollof Lounge, 44 High Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4DS.

For further information please contact Julie Francis-Beard, Democratic Services Officer on Telephone: 01634 332011 or Email:

democratic.services@medway.gov.uk

Date: 25 April 2023



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From: [Franco Defazio](#)
To: [caiels, laura](#); [wilson, fiona](#)
Cc: [krishnan, venky](#); [francisbeard, julie](#)
Subject: FW: Urgent additional evidence for the hearing today
Date: 25 April 2023 08:03:49

Good Morning,

I wanted you to be aware that I received this late yesterday. Please see below

Kindest Regards

Franco De Fazio

Senior Licensing Officer (Regulatory Services)
Gravesham and Medway Shared Licensing Service

Licensing Team Tel: 01474 337434

Please note I am normally in the office only Monday and Tuesday's and work from home the rest of the week.

**Most Licensing applications can be submitted to via www.gravesham.gov.uk.
If you cannot find the service you require, please email
licensing@gravesham.gov.uk**

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From: GRAHAM HOPKINS <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Franco Defazio <franco.defazio@gravesham.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: Urgent

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Hi Franco,

We would like this submitted to the Chair, Panel & other parties please.

The letter is from Ms Fadeyi who is the Manager of Lounge 44 and I shall be referring to it at the Hearing. There is no place for racism in England and it should not be covered up. It engages the prevention of crime & disorder LO.

Kind regards,

Graham Hopkins
GT Licensing Consultants [REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dozie Atuanya** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, 24 Apr 2023 at 15:36
Subject: Fwd: Urgent
To: GRAHAM HOPKINS <[REDACTED]>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nadiya Fadeyi** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Apr 24, 2023 at 3:30 PM
Subject: Urgent
To: Dozie Atuanya <[REDACTED]>

To whom this may concern.

I am writing a statement in regards to the things I have seen, heard and witnessed in the establishment of Lounge 44 restaurant bar. Since my time at this family ordained business I have occurred in several different incidents with the resident of [REDACTED] [high street](#) Chatham Kent . Mr Vlad Dumitru I believe he is known by.

First occasion Mr Vlad Dumitru has entered the restaurant being abusive and swearing at me in front of customers this first incident happened in early year of 2022. He never even explained what the problem was or has been he has come in to the restaurant with rage swearing and shouting at me. When he has never explained to myself his concern. All I can explain it is not normal for someone to have a passive angry and aggressive behaviour . I left it a couple days. This is when he started to be very very concerning . If it was noise or anything he did not approach me. I personally constantly check noise levels I have seen him stand outside the premises checking noise levels. The Second incident was around 6 pm in the evening he was abusing my customers over the wall. This was in the evening it was not late. My customers apologised even when he was making racist comments and telling them to shut up. This incident happened in the garden. I reported this to the police as I was moved by his approach to customers who came out for a quiet enjoyable moment which was short lived. I have witnessed him dumping rubbish on the establishment in the garden. When you try and approach the resident all I get is abused to the point all you hear is shouting vulgar language which I do not believe it is correct or normal to talk to anyone in that manor.

I have a good relationship with all the business or resident along the high street. The tenants who stay above the restaurant, know that if they have any kind of disturbance or issue I am highly approachable and I will surely deal with any matter with immediate effect. The tenants who [REDACTED], have three young children under the age of 5. These two separate families have no concerns with anything in regards to the way lounge 44 is situated or operated. Taking into consideration two the children are under 1 year. No concerns to the noise. I have personally taken the time to check the noise and entertainment noise from both properties. I have also added to the surrounding neighbours and business along the road if there are any concern or interruptions that are affecting you please contact me on a personal line and this would be resolved immediately.

Further more another occasion the resident at [REDACTED] high street Chatham has also recorded me smoking at the back garden and has been very abusive screaming swearing out of his window for me simply smoking. He has put up cameras over looking the premises I just believe Mr Vlad Dumitru has a serious issue with the business being an African setting.

I feel I need to express myself.

I am at the premises 7 days a week and know this is a racial attack we have aids in red paint sprayed on the window but no one else has. Chewing gum put in my key hole. I have no proof but I know what Mr Vlad Dumitru is capable of and the reason I believe he has a part to play in this cause he has already showed signs of unhappiness of the business being their.

He partner has abused the door staff that have been working due to them talking on a Friday night. Again this has been done by shouting and screaming out the window.

I have reported this to the police due to the harassment and know this is a racial movement.

I have been abused and felt scared and very afraid by whereby I have to make customers and family members never wait for me to close the premises it is unfair whereby I have had to call my partner to come and wait at times with me due to the neighbour in question making me feel unsafe. This is done by his abuse racial discrimination and threats. All this has been reported to the police.

My conclusion is noted below

In my view I believe that we have never had the support of local authorities and certain Medway/ Gravesham council employees naming one of them ([REDACTED]) whereby that have presented false information to the council. I highlighted this in an email but nothing has come to light.

This local business has never had any issues with the police. There has never been any kind of incidents.

In an African Caribbean any setting can be a little louder by the way men and woman express themselves in their native language it comes across as aggressive if you do not understand. In general afro Caribbean people are loud in nature. This is only setting in Medway as a small business whereby we have tried to offer an experience of 'the home of Africa' this dream has been short lived it has put the owner in a terrible position of his dreams to be shattered. It has stripped him of his lively hood, to the point of major health issues and serious depression.

Is this right in the era we live in?
But unfortunately as a civilian and someone of our race this will never be resolved but only diverted.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if more information is to be required.

Kind regards

Ariike

Sent from my iPhone

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Kind Regards.

Dozie K Atuanya

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Graham Hopkins

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