

Evidence

Bundle

2

Evidence relating to
Paginated pages 1 - 6:

6 x Police Statements
2 x Witness Statements

(when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B: Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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Statement of: Jean Irving

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Head of Licensing & Public Safety

This statement (consisting of 89 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature:

[Redacted Signature]

Date 29/09/2016

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

I am Head of Licensing and Public Safety for Sussex Police, a role I have held for approx 8 years.

I have been employed by Sussex Police for over 13 years, during which time I have been involved in alcohol licensing.

For approximately 8 years I have been a member of the National Police Chiefs Council (*Formerly Association of Chief Police Officers – ACPO*) Alcohol Harm Reduction and Licensing Group, being appointed the Joint-Chair of the NPCC Licensing Group just over 6 years ago.

The NPCC Licensing Group consists of ten expert licensing practitioners from various forces across the Country who provide good practice and guidance to other forces, also delivering annual licensing training. As the joint chair of the group I am a national police spokesperson on licensing matters. I represent the National Police Chiefs Council on the National Licensing Forum, The National Pub Watch Board and at meetings with the Home Office, also regularly providing police related licensing input at the Institute of Licensing Annual National Training Conference and other licensing conferences.

In 2014 I was presented with an award from the President of ACPO, acknowledging me as an expert in police licensing matters, commending my work with many forces nationally.

My responsibilities within the Sussex Police whole force area include: Head of Profession for licensing matters, developing maintaining and implementing the force licensing and violent crime reduction policies; providing direction to police departments and partners to ensure a consistent force wide approach to licensing issues. Part of my role involves gathering the facts of individual

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Continuation of statement of cases / applications and incidents and deciding on the appropriate level of police response. I have delegated authority from the Chief Constable of Sussex Police for all licensing matters.

On a regular basis, I check the police licensing Management Information Systems for the 8500 licensed premises in East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove to monitor emerging issues.

Early in June '16 I noticed that there had been an escalation of issues at The Trek in Seaford. I felt that violence levels were unacceptably high and so I contacted Sgt Denham Vokins and asked him for an explanation and what steps he was taking to resolve the issues. Sgt Vokins confirmed that he was aware of the escalation and seriousness of the incidents and had asked the local Licensing Officer, PC Rush, to investigate and provide him with a report. He confirmed that he would be setting up a meeting with the combined Premises Licence Holder/owner and Designated Premises Supervisor Mrs Yvonne Newton-Turner as soon as he had verified the incidents.

A meeting took place between Mrs Newton-Turner, Sgt Vokins and PC Rush on 10th June. The content will be covered in Sgt Vokins statement and the minutes submitted as evidence. Sgt Vokins debriefed me on the meeting and advised he had spoken about a number of incidents and asked Mrs Newton-Turner to produce an Action Plan outlining what steps she would be taking to prevent further incidents. A follow up letter outlining what the action plan should contain was also sent.

An Action Plan was subsequently received by PC Rush. A response was authorised by Sgt Vokins and sent on 22nd June by Licensing Officer Cathie Wolfe, which made a number of observations and comments. The Action Plan, our response and the response received from Mrs Newton-Turner on 25th June can be found in the police evidence bundle.

Licensing Officer Wolfe contacted Mrs Newton-Turner by phone during this period and, as she had recently assumed responsibility for Lewes District, asked for a meeting to introduce herself and clarify the police concerns as Sgt Vokins and PC Rush felt during their meeting little or no progress had been made. It was intended that the meeting be between PC Rush, LO Wolfe and Mrs

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Continuation of statement of

Newton-Turner. The meeting was arranged for 11th July and Mrs Newton-Turner advised that the Lewes District Council Licensing Officer Sue Lindsey would be attending and also Mr Alan Sidders from Mark One Security. Under the circumstances, it was decided that Sgt Vokins would also attend. Details of this meeting are contained with Sgt Vokins statement, and the minutes also form part of the police evidence bundle.

On 19th July I had a meeting with PC Rush and Sgt Vokins, to discuss the issues at the Trek. It was clear both Officers were very concerned by the attitude of Mrs Newton-Turner and the continuing incidents. They briefed me in relation to the meeting on 11th July and provided me with the minutes. Of main concern was the refusal of Mrs Newton-Turner to acknowledge or accept the number of incidents at the Trek. She also refused to accept that the public nuisance and public safety issues taking place in the near vicinity to the Trek, were as a result of the drunken behaviour of people who had been in the venue.

I asked PC Rush and Sgt Vokins to closely monitor the Trek and keep me apprised of any incidents of note.

On 25th July I was made aware of a serious incident in the street which had occurred on 24th July. This incident is referred to within the review application and also within Sgt Vokins statement. At this point, taking into consideration the refusal of the Premises Licence Holder / Designated Premises Supervisor Mrs Newton-Turner to co-operate with Police and the escalating violence at and in the vicinity of the Trek. I confirmed with Sgt Vokins that he and his team were already collating evidence for a possible Review, and indicated that subject to the evidence they found, that it was likely that we would have no alternative but to submit an Application to the Licensing Authority soon.

A Review Application is always the last resort used by police, as it is very resource intensive. Each incident must be fully investigated to ensure that it can be properly assigned as having been caused by mismanagement of the venue, and / or that the incident could have been avoided if the

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premises was run in accordance with the four Licensing Objectives. However, the cost and resources will always being my secondary consideration when public safety is at risk.

On 8th August I was made aware of an email from residents to police and the local MP, sent on 6th August, expressing their concern at the escalation of incidents particularly the incident on 24th July in which their families, including very young children, were kept up as late as 4am by the noise and violence in the street. I asked Sgt Vokins to arrange a meeting between myself, him and the residents, inviting the local MP Maria Caulfield, or her representative to attend.

The meeting took place on Monday 15th August and Mr Steve Bell CBE, attended the meeting on behalf of Ms Caulfield.

A number of residents attended the meeting and, as they related their experiences of living near to the Trek, I realised their lives were being completely ruined by customers from the Trek. I heard of residents being forced to sleep in bathrooms (located at the back of their houses) due to the noise of shouting swearing and screaming, children being kept awake by the shouting and screaming of customers leaving the venue after 2am, never being visited by family and friends at weekends, being forced to go to bed early so people wouldn't see their lights on and bang on their windows, people defecating outside the front of their houses, littering, vomiting and most importantly, they feared for the safety of themselves and their family. They told us of times when people in the street could be seen taking off their shirts in anticipation of a fight, which seemed to have become the normal and accepted practice outside the Trek and in the street outside their properties. A comment made subsequently by a resident resonates with me, and that was that he felt like an awful father and husband for moving to Seaford and subjecting his family to these horrors, and didn't feel he could ever forgive himself.

I have never, in 13 years of being in my role, heard such terrible experiences from residents.

They told us they had attempted to complain directly to Mrs Newton-Turner, but their concerns

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Continuation of statement of

were dismissed. Mrs Newton-Turner had, we were told, advised them that she was on the licensing committee, and the residents said it was clear she felt she had 'protection from high up'. They told us they had complained to one of their local Councillors, but felt their concerns were not being taken seriously, as they were constantly being told that 'Mrs Newton-Turner is doing the best she can, and the issues are not her fault'. The residents have a number of emails in which these comments are communicated to them. Their sense of despair was tangible and was very upsetting to hear. Due to the previous negative responses they have received, they were clearly very concerned of 'reprisals' if they were identified by providing statements. I asked the residents to keep noise/disturbance dairies, I also explained what is expected of a licensee under the Licensing Act 2003, and explained the four licensing objectives to them. It was agreed at the meeting that Mr Bell would act as their representative as he was acting on behalf of the local MP, and he had their best interests at heart. It was also agreed that all sound recordings and evidence would be sent to Mr Bell to sanitise and collate. Subsequently, Mr Bell has agreed to personally appear at the Summary Review Hearing to represent the residents as Interested Parties. The meeting concluded by myself, Mr Bell and Sgt Vokins reassuring them that their concerns are important to us, and we would be dealing with this matter as a priority.

Following the meeting, I gave instructions to the licensing team that we would be submitting a Review Application to the Licensing Authority as soon as it was available. In my experience, a Review Application is likely to take a minimum of four weeks to produce and there were significant concerns in the office that if we didn't act as quickly as possible, there was likely to be a very serious incident, so this task was prioritised.

On 11th September, there was an incident of serious crime and serious disorder associated with the Trek, and I was informed on Monday 12th September. I was told that a member of security at the Trek had received injuries consistent with Grievous Bodily Harm and that residents had phoned the police as they feared someone would get killed. It became clear to Sgt Vokins and I that if this

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Continuation of statement of
matter could be associated with the Trek, it would be necessary for us to take immediate action to prevent a similar occurrence taking place.

Sgt Vokins, PC Rush and LO Wolfe attended the Trek to obtain CCTV on Monday 12th September, and a copy of most of the requested recordings were ready for collection from The Trek by PC Rush on 13th. Sgt Vokins told me that Mrs Newton-Turner advised him she would be going on holiday later that week, although he couldn't recall if it was Wednesday or Thursday.

The Licensing Act 2003 makes it an offence for alcohol to be sold to someone who is drunk. Mrs Newton-Turner confirmed to PS Vokins that on the night of 11th September no person within the premises was refused service of alcohol.

There then followed a period of significant validation of the evidence, including viewing of the CCTV, obtaining statements from officers who attended the scene and witnessed the fighting on the street. The team conducted thorough investigation of all the facts to ensure we had sufficient evidence against the Trek. We would have preferred to serve the Summary Review document in time to attempt to prevent the Trek from opening the weekend of 16th September, however, we had to gather enough evidence to gain the authorisation of a Superintendent for the Summary Review and until Monday 19th our evidence was not complete. However, such was the concern of everyone involved in this case that a further incident would occur at the premises, CI Leet authorised police resources to be in attendance at the premises from opening until closing on Friday and Saturday 16th and 17th September.

The evidence and facts of the case were presented to Superintendent Franklin on Tuesday 20th September, and he authorised the Certificate and Summary Review Application, which was then served on the Licensing Authority later that day. The Police requested immediate suspension of the premises licence.

I am aware that in the case of a Summary Review Application being served, the Licensing

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Authority must decide on Interim Steps within 48 hours of service, and we requested attendance at the meeting. I am also aware that no one, neither the police nor the management of the premises in question has any 'right' to appear at the hearing. However, I was keen to ensure that the Committee were fully aware of the reasons why we had asked for immediate suspension of the licence and why we felt no other steps were appropriate. Our attendance would give the opportunity to the Committee to ask any questions they felt necessary. I was also aware, that if police attended the meeting / hearing, then the premises licence holder or a representative would also be invited to attend the meeting / hearing, which I fully expected and understood.

Subsequent to our serving the documents on the Licensing Authority, I am aware that on the same day, Ms Lindsey served the papers on Mr & Mrs Newton-Turner. At the meeting / hearing on Thursday 22nd September, Mr & Mrs Newton-Turner were represented by a Barrister appointed by them, who responded to the police case on her behalf. The Committee subsequently decided the premises licence would be suspended until the Summary Hearing in October.

Throughout my involvement in this case, I have been surprised and disappointed by Mrs Newton-Turners refusal to work with police, and more importantly her never accepting that any of the incidents are as a result of bad management practices at the Trek.

The Licensing Act 2003 has four Licensing Objectives, three of which have been undermined by the way in which the Trek is managed. The Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor of any licensed premises are required to PROMOTE the licensing objectives, not 'stick to' 'abide by' or any other passive word. Promote is a pro-active word, which requires proactivity by the PLH & DPS, I have seen no proactivity nor any attempt by Mrs Newton-Turner to even 'uphold' the licensing objectives. It is my professional opinion that alcohol is sold irresponsibly within the premises, as evidenced by the number and levels of drunkenness witnessed week after week at the Trek. Further, it is my opinion, that peoples' safety is of no importance to the management of the Trek; this is evidenced by the fact that even when her own member of staff was severely injured on the 11th September, she failed to call police or an ambulance.

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Mrs Newton-Turner also has little or no respect or regard for her neighbours, as demonstrated by her treatment of them and her comments when interviewed by a reporter from the Argus 'They move next to a nightclub and then having got a cheap deal they make out there is a noise'. The PLH of a premises is required by the Licensing Act to promote the prevention of public nuisance - actively prevent it.

In my professional opinion, sustained aggression of the type witnessed by residents every single weekend, can only be caused by people who are highly intoxicated or on drugs or both. Officers arresting or dealing with perpetrators outside the Trek witness this high level of intoxication routinely, even over the weekend of the 16/17th September when there was a heavy police presence. I was also made aware, that despite the heavy police presence, a further assault took place resulting in injuries, and is covered within the additional papers of the review.

At the time of writing this statement, one weekend has now passed since the Interim Steps meeting at which the Committee decided that the only appropriate course of action was to suspend the licence. Residents of Blatchington Road have been in contact with me to tell me of the almost eerie quiet in the road, something they had never experienced before. One told of deliberately staying up late 'because we could' and hearing no noise and very very few people walking down the road, another also told me how quiet the road is now the Trek was closed. This is clear indication that the persons fighting, swearing and shouting in Blatchington Road at 2/3/4am were coming from the Trek and not using the road as a thoroughfare nor coming from another premises. The Shore is the nearest bar to the Trek and whilst they have a licence permitting them to open until 2.30am, I contacted the premises and spoke to a member of staff who confirmed that prior to the Trek licence being suspended, they did not remain open past 1am any day, and stop serving alcohol 30 mins before their closing time. The member of staff also confirmed that they have a strict last entry policy of midnight, which is enforced by their security.

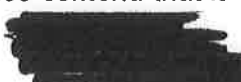
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Continuation of statement of

A Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor are required under the Licensing Act 2003 to promote the prevention of crime and disorder, promote public safety and promote the prevention of public nuisance. The PLH & DPS of the Trek have failed to demonstrate that they have promoted any of these three licensing objectives, and as such, Sussex Police contend that it is proportionate and necessary that the premises licence of the Trek is revoked. 

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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1)

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Statement of: Denham Vokins PS CV146

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: Police officer

This statement (consisting of [REDACTED] page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date 15th September 2016Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

I am the Police Sgt for East Sussex Alcohol Harm reduction Unit. I have successfully completed the BIIAB level 2 National certificate for Licensing Practitioners and have 19 years service as a Police officer. My role includes ensuring that Licensed premises are operated in compliance with the conditions of their licenses and in a way that promotes the Licensing objectives laid down in the Licensing Act 2003. When there is evidence that a Licensed premises is either failing to operate within the law, is not promoting the Licensing objectives or is breaching the conditions of it's Licence it is my duty to address these issues to ensure people are kept safe and with a view to the problems being remedied.

A substantial amount of my work in recent months has been focused on The Trek club in Seaford. Having become aware that there were a concerning number of incidents of crime and disorder directly associated with the premises I was of the opinion that the Licensing objectives, in particular the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety were being undermined.

As a result of this at 14:00 hours on Friday 10th June 2016 PC RUSH DR03 and I met Yvonne NEWTON-TURNER, the Designated Premises Supervisor, (DPS) of the Trek, at Seaford Police station. The premises Licence holder is in the name of the Trek Nightclub Ltd. During the meeting we discussed a number of incidents that had taken place at, or were associated with the premises; nearly all of them had occurred after 02:00 hrs which is the time that the premises closes. We asked Mrs NEWTON-TURNER to explain to us how she deals with the closure of the premises and dispersal of customers. She said that the club operates until 02:00 hours at which point everything stops, ie: the music ends, sale of alcohol ceases, the lights are put on inside the premises and SIA staff move people from the back of the club and out of the premises. I told Mrs NEWTON-TURNER that I thought the reason the premises was experiencing a significant number of incidents from 02:00 hours onwards was because there was no "staggered closure" and no specific dispersal plan in place. Mrs NEWTON-TURNER seemed to be confused by these terms. I was surprised as she had

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Continuation of statement of [REDACTED] told us that she had run the premises for 31 years, with that much experience I would expect someone to be aware of terms such as staggered closure and dispersal plans / policy. I explained what these terms meant and gave her some examples of things she could do to implement them at the premises; for instance prior to closing time a gradual increase in lighting conditions, bring forward the times for last sales of alcohol to customers, provision and offering of water to customers, reduce the volume of the music being played and change it to a comparatively gentle genre, SIA door-staff floor walking to check on customer wellbeing, SIA staff actively patrolling the forecourt and the road outside the premises to request patrons to leave quietly in respect to local residents, etc.

During the meeting Mrs NEWTON-TURNER became angry. She disagreed that there had been a rise in the number of incidents at the premises and was also critical of PC RUSH for not attending Pubwatch meetings. By the end of the meeting however I had the impression that she was accepting of some of the things we had said to her and some acknowledgement that we had demonstrated a pattern of incidents occurring at or associated with the premises shortly after closing time. We asked her to create an Action plan for the premises. We explained what an Action plan was and how it should be used to help reduce incidents of crime and disorder associated with the premises. Mrs NEWTON-TURNER said that we had not threatened to close her premises or take it to review as other Police officers had threatened to do in the past. I advised her that if there was no reduction in incidents of crime and disorder for a period of time after an Action plan was implemented & no improvement in the way the premises was operated to reduce such incidents then ultimately the process would be that we would seek a review of the premises licence. I also advised her however that we hoped the Action plan would bring about a significant improvement and a review would not be necessary. In the meeting we also discussed the premises licence with her, I told her I was concerned that there were no conditions on the licence, apart from the mandatory conditions. I discussed the hours of operation with her but she said she would not be willing to reduce the hours during which she was open to the public. I also advised Mrs NEWTON-TURNER that Police would undertake to attend Seaford Pubwatch meetings & ideally this would be PC RUSH, but if not available a representative on her behalf.

A letter dated 13th June 2016 was sent to Mrs NEWTON-TURNER which summarised the contents of the meeting that had taken place on 10th June, the letter was undersigned by PC RUSH and myself.

On 14th June 2016 I became aware of a written reply to our meeting and subsequent letter which was undersigned by Yvonne NEWTON-TURNER Managing director and owner of the Trek club. The correspondence referred to our meeting and some of the matters that were discussed in it. Mrs NEWTON-TURNER wrote

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Continuation of statement of [REDACTED] that she was extremely disappointed at the way this had been handled by the Police. She stated that a copy of her correspondence "will if necessary" be forwarded to Katy Bourne, the Police and Crime commissioner, Maria Caldwell, Lewes MP and the legal Team at the Federation of small businesses, "who I believe will take up any challenge to my Licence".

On Monday 11th July 2016 I attended a meeting at the Trek with PC RUSH, Licensing officer Cathie WOLFE, Mrs NEWTON-TURNER, Mr Alan SIDERS from Marc One security and Sue LINDSEY, Lewes District Licensing Authority. During the meeting Mrs NEWTON-TURNER became angry and disputed that the incidents that we had previously discussed with her had actually even occurred. I tried to explain to Mrs NEWTON-TURNER that we had evidence to confirm the incidents had occurred, eg: they were verified by Police records but she refused to accept this. I was unable to say anything further to convince her and told her so in the meeting.

On Monday 15th August 2016 I attended Lewes Police station to meet with residents who live nearby to the Trek. Also at the meeting was Jean IRVING – Sussex Police Head of Licensing & Public safety & Mr Steve BELL, CBE - representative of Maria CAULFIELD MP. During the meeting residents said that there were problems associated with the premises every weekend, Saturday nights being the worst and that the problems were getting worse. Residents were very concerned that someone was going to get badly hurt and said that staff at the premises do not report things. They said that there is constant disruption to their private lives, people banging on their windows whilst watching TV, urinating and defecating in their doorways, shouting, screaming and fighting in the street, being woken up by noise in the early hours of the morning and litter and empty drug packets found in the street. They said that the levels of violence they had witnessed in the street from people associated with the Trek had made them fearful for their own safety. They expressed concern about Mrs NEWTON-TURNER and said that she speaks very poorly to local residents and has lead them to believe that she is on a Licensing committee. It was agreed during the meeting that residents would send future correspondence regarding the Trek to Mr BELL.

I have read the incidents referred to in the summary review document, the information for these has been taken from Police systems and to the best of my knowledge they accurately record events that have taken place and are directly associated with the Trek.

At 01:50 hours on Sunday 11th September 2016 Police received a call stating that 50 people were fighting outside the premises. Police also received a call from Sussex ambulance a few minutes later stating that a bouncer had been kicked in the face and had an eye injury and possibly a broken nose. Having viewed the

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Continuation of statement of

Police investigation in to this incident I can confirm that serious crime and serious disorder occurred at the premises. Two males who were working as door staff were assaulted. One male suffered a broken eye socket, broken cheek bone, broken nose and lost the movement in one of his eyes. The other male sustained muscle and ligament damage to his jaw.

At 15:15 hours on Monday 12th September 2016 PC RUSH DR403, Licensing officer Cathie Wolfe and I attended the Trek nightclub to carry out some enquiries at the premises in relation to the incident that had occurred on 11th September 2016. We met Mrs NEWTON-TURNER at the premises and asked for footage from the CCTV system for the night of the incident, she said her husband would attend the premises in due course and would be able to get it for us as she could not.

I asked Mrs NEWTON-TURNER what happened on the night of the incident. She said two males were ejected from the premises for an incident that occurred inside the club, a large group of people from the premises followed the ejected males outside and a large fight then occurred. Mrs NEWTON-TURNER did not seem to know what had occurred inside the premises to prompt the ejection and she did not elaborate on it any further. She said that during the fight outside the club one of her door staff had been injured and he was then brought back in to the club.

I asked Mrs NEWTON-TURNER who phoned for Police on the night of the incident, she replied, "I don't know". I then asked her who phoned for an ambulance, again she said, "I don't know". Police records show that the call made to Police on the night of the incident was not from anyone who works at the premises. As far as I am aware nobody from the premises phoned either the Police to notify them that the incident took place or the Ambulance service to deal with the member of staff who had been seriously injured.

Mrs NEWTON-TURNER undermined the Licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety by not ensuring Police were phoned on the night of this incident. She was present at the time and must have been aware that numerous people were fighting, many of whom were drunk, disorderly and had been customers in the premises. One of her door staff had been seriously assaulted and doubtless other assaults were taking place. She and her staff at the premises completely lost control of a significant number of their customers.

I asked Mrs NEWTON-TURNER if she had a refusals register in the premises, she seemed unsure as to what I meant and asked for clarification. I explained that this was a register usually kept at the bar area for staff to record instances when they refuse to serve / sell alcohol to customers due to drunkenness or other reasons, eg: proxy / underage sales. As well as recording why they refuse to sell alcohol staff can add

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Continuation of statement of [REDACTED] comments re any additional action they took, eg: offering a drink of water to the customer, notifying the DPS, etc.... She said that she did not have such a register, I recommended that using one at the premises would be good practice. She explained that if a customer is refused sale of alcohol the process at the premises is that bar staff will call for a member of door staff who will then deal with the customer. I then asked her if there had been any refusals for sale of alcohol to any customers on the night of the incident, she confirmed that there had not.

During our visit Mrs NEWTON-TURNER said that since they had started to reduce the volume of the music from 01:45 hours onwards this had had a better effect on people when leaving the premises at closing time. She said that she had not wanted to admit to Police that previous advice they had given her had been right, Mrs NEWTON-TURNER's husband, Mr Julian TURNER arrived at the premises and at our request showed us various different pieces of CCTV footage from a number of cameras on site. I saw footage from the front entrance lobby of the club which showed the suspect for the serious assault entering the premises approximately 1 hour and 50 minutes prior to when the incident occurred. I then viewed more footage from the entrance lobby which showed two males being physically removed the premises by door staff. They were lead through the doors from the bar / dance floor area and out of the front entrance of the premises. Several seconds later at least 15 - 20 customers quickly followed them out of the premises. I then viewed footage which showed the two ejected males being removed by door staff in to the road outside the front gates. I then saw a large number of customers quickly move out through the front gates in to the road and a considerable number of them then started fighting with each other. I saw people punching, kicking, grabbing, pushing, pulling and dragging each other. Several different fights took place within relatively close proximity of the premises, the nearest being at the Taxi rank on the opposite side of the road to the front of the premises. I would estimate 45 - 50 people were outside the premises. Aside from those who were fighting a number of people were stood nearby watching, some were gesturing in aggressive ways that appeared to be an attempt to goad or intimidate others. A male stood by the entrance gate was looking and laughing at what was taking place and chatting excitedly with a female stood next to him. I noticed a number of people appeared to be unsteady on their feet; for example a male was bent forward at the waist apparently trying to pick something up off the ground. He suddenly swayed to his right as if he was about to fall over and then staggered and managed to remain upright. He then ran, albeit unsteadily at a group in front of him and as he reached them he immediately started fighting. I saw another male who was unsteady on his feet and appeared to be holding on to a person next to him. He had one of his arms around the other person and

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Continuation of statement of [REDACTED] seemed to be leaning on them as if to stop himself from losing his balance. In my professional capacity as a Police officer I am used to seeing this kind of body language and movement in people who are drunk. I saw several people apparently being held back by others to prevent them from engaging or re-engaging in the fight. I saw a number of SIA door staff from the premises leave the front gate and go in to the road to deal with the fight. Mrs NEWTON-TURNER was also out in the road, however having viewed the CCTV in my opinion she would have had the opportunity to phone for Police and ambulance herself or ask someone else to do so on her behalf. In the meeting PC RUSH and I had with Mrs NEWTON-TURNER on 10th June 2016 we had advised her as the DPS not to "dual role" as SIA door staff. There is a tendency when people dual role in this way that they become distracted by getting involved in door staff roles to the extent that they loose focus on maintaining proper management and control of the premises. The letter that was sent to Mrs NEWTON-TURNER on 13th June 2016 also contained advice not to dual role.

I am seriously concerned about the way that the Trek club is being operated by Mrs NEWTON-TURNER. Customers are being allowed to become drunk whilst in the premises, often to excess and often in significant numbers, as the incident on 11th September showed. Police officers, including myself have tried to work with Mrs NEWTON-TURNER to bring about a change in the way the premises is being operated. She has been given a lot of advice by myself and other colleagues on the Licensing Team. She has become angry with us over our interventions and she has disputed that Police have any evidence at all of incidents occurring at or associated with the Trek. There has been no apparent improvement at the premises and incidents involving drunk customers and crime and disorder have continued to occur. The way that the Trek has been operated falls way below the standards expected at a Licensed premises. Due to comments made by Mrs NEWTON-TURNER Police have been lead to believe that incidents occurring at the premises are not being reported by staff and that she is not being open and honest with us. The assault that occurred on 11th September 2016 was a serious crime that resulted in significant and potentially life changling injuries to a male who works at the premises. The assault took place while serious disorder was occurring directly outside the premises involving customers who had been in there and as a result I am of the professional opinion that a summary review is both proportionate and necessary.

Due to the concerns of the Police following the serious incident on 11th September & while the evidence for the summary review was being prepared officers were specifically tasked to patrol at the Trek when open and in surrounding roads after closing time to monitor the egress of customers around the town. In spite of this another assault associated with the premises unfortunately occurred on Sunday 18/09/16 as referred to

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Continuation of statement of
in the review document.

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(when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B: Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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Statement of: Denham Vokins PS CV146

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: Police officer

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date 3rd October 2016Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

This statement is produced further to the one which I wrote on 15th September 2016 regarding the Trek Nightclub, Seaford.

I have viewed the evidence contained in the review application for Trek nightclub and I submit this statement to confirm where the evidence has originated from and to clarify its contents. Below are a number of incidents referred to in the review application.

On Saturday 21st November 2015 Police received a call from a female reporting her husband had been involved in a fight at the Trek during which his wallet was stolen. Police records state the male had been in the club and was involved in a scuffle at the bar & officers said it was likely that the theft occurred whilst the male was drunk. The male told Police he was not a grass, did not want officers to check CCTV at the premises and would not give any further details; the investigation was filed without any suspects being identified.

On Sunday 27th December 2015 three calls were made to Police as follows. At 02:26 hrs a local resident reported people fighting, at 02:34 hrs door staff reported an aggressive male and said he was very drunk, kicking off at staff, threatening everyone & pushing people. At 02:58 hrs a female reported a male refusing to leave her home address & told officers they had argued about his drunkenness and aggressiveness at the Trek earlier on. It is possible that the second and third call related to the same incident and owing to the male's drunk and aggressive state he has caused problems both at the Trek and elsewhere later on.

On Sunday 7th February 2016 three calls were made to Police at 01:04 hrs, 01:11 hrs and 01:40 hrs. Police reports show that the first two calls were from a female who was shouting and swearing & claimed she had been assaulted by a bouncer at the Trek. The Police call handler dealing with one of the calls described the called as clearly very intoxicated. The third call was a female reporting she has been assaulted by another female. Police records show that the female she named as the suspect for the assault was the female who made the first two calls to Police. Staff at the Trek were aware of the assault as they separated the suspect and victim and ejected the suspect from the premises, however staff did not phone for Police.

On 14th February 2016 at 02:15 hours Police received a call from a local resident reporting a large fight. Police officers attended and came across a large group of people & they deemed it suitable to take some of them back to Newhaven. Although nobody made any allegations of assault to Police that does not mean a fight did not occur.

At 01:24 hours on Saturday 20th February 2015 a male who was on Pubwatch was refusing to leave the premises. Reports state that this was not the only time the male had breached his ban at the Trek.

On Sunday 28th February 2016 at 00:22 hours Police received a call from a resident reporting two drunk males outside their house having a heated argument. Police reports for this incident state that the males were drunk and a 3rd male came out the Trek and encouraged the other two males to go back to the premises. A male then urinated in the informant's porch.

At 02:39 hours on Sunday 20th March 2016 a male reported that his daughter had been assaulted by a female in the smoking area of the Trek. She had been punched in the face and fell to the ground where she

Continuation of statement of [REDACTED]

had passed out briefly, which she said may have been due to the amount of alcohol she had drunk. Police records of the incident make no mention of staff at the Trek taking any action, eg: no welfare of the victim, no ejection of violent or drunk customers and no calls were made by staff at the premises for either Police or an ambulance to attend the location.

On Sunday 3rd April 2016 at 01:20 hours Sussex ambulance reported to Police that they were attending an unconscious male at the Trek who had a head injury. This was the second time in two consecutive weeks that a person had become unconscious at the premises & Police concluded assaults had occurred on both occasions. Staff at the premises did not phone for police.

At 02:07 hours on Saturday 9th April 2016 a doorman at the premises reported to police that a female had been assaulted by another female. Police reports show that the victim provided a statement and attended medical appointments including x-rays for her injuries. Unfortunately the suspect for this assault was never identified.

On Sunday 17th April 2016 three calls were made to Police. At 02:11 hrs a resident reported 20 people fighting, they had come from the Trek which had just closed. Also at 02:11 hrs another resident reported 6 males pushing, fighting and swearing outside the Trek. At 02:14 hrs another resident reported a male was being pinned against a wall. The Trek regularly closes at 02:00 hours on a Saturday night going in to a Sunday morning. These fights occurred very soon after closing time and in very close proximity to the premises yet no members of staff from the Trek phoned for Police.

On Sunday 1st May 2016 at 02:34 hours patrolling Police officers were in Blatchington road when they saw a male lying on the pavement a relatively short distance from the Trek. Police reports state the male had been assaulted, he had been unconscious for about 2 minutes, had head injuries and was vomiting. His injuries were subsequently confirmed to be sufficiently serious to be recorded as grievous bodily harm. He was with 3 other people, all of the group had been in the Trek and all were drunk. Officers described the victim as extremely intoxicated and shouting and swearing & another person in the group as extremely intoxicated and was constantly in the way and falling asleep drunk in the street. The victim subsequently refused to provide a statement to Police or grant them access to his medical records and the investigation was filed.

At 02:13 hours on Sunday 8th May 2016 a local resident phoned Police reporting there were 60 people in the street, there had been a massive fight, one person was lying on the floor & the people had come from the Trek nightclub. Police reports state that a male victim sustained a deep cut to his head which needed to be glued. This amounted to an offence of wounding which means a breaking of all the layers of the skin. The victim subsequently did not want any further involvement from police and would not comment further. As a result the investigation was filed.

This was the second consecutive week in which a serious assault occurred. Staff from the Trek did not call Police about either of these incidents; the people involved in them had been customers at the premises. The incidents occurred in close proximity to the premises and not long after closing time.

Owing to serious concerns I had about the number of incidents, assaults and apparent drunkenness associated with the premises I asked PC RUSH to arrange a meeting for us with the premises licence holder / designated premises supervisor, Mrs Yvonne NEWTON-TURNER. This meeting took place on 10th June 2016 & is referred to in my previous statement.

At 02:28 hours on Saturday 18th June 2016 a local resident phoned police reporting that people who had just come out of the Trek were fighting and someone was throwing rocks. This incident occurred 8 days after PC RUSH and I had met with Mrs NEWTON-TURNER when we had advised her that she needed to look specifically at the way the premises was operated around closing time and the dispersal of customers.

I received a letter dated 22nd July 2016 from Quality Barwells Solicitors, a copy of which is attached to the evidence for the review application.

At 02:15 hours on Sunday 24th July 2016 Police received a call from a local resident reporting a massive fight involving forty people, someone on the ground and people crying. Six further calls were made to Police about this incident on the night. Police report state that as officers arrived they could see a large group of people running away. 40+ people were surrounding a male on the floor outside the Trek, police tried to disperse the group with no success and they were all extremely drunk and excitable. The victim, who police described as highly intoxicated, sustained a number of injuries, the most serious of these was a fractured

Signature [REDACTED]

Signature witnessed by: _____

PTO

[REDACTED]

Continuation of statement of

cheekbone. In my opinion and from Policing experience the injuries were sufficiently serious to amount to grievous bodily harm.

At 02:04 hours on Saturday 20th August 2016 Police received a call from a local resident reporting that people leaving the Trek were screaming threats of violence against each other. A further four calls were made to Police about this situation which appeared to escalate in to a fight, shouting, screaming, threats to kill, someone being kicked on the floor, punching and kicking each other. This incident occurred in close proximity to the Trek and within only 4 minutes of their closing time yet no one from the premises phoned for Police. Police records state that Police CCTV witnessed a few punches thrown which therefore corroborates a fight taking place. Police officers attended the location in response to the calls and stated that there were a number of people in the street but none were fighting. It is impossible to state whether or not the people officers saw in the street were those referred to in the calls made to Police, however officers described raised voices and general drunken behaviour by this group.

At 01:58 hours on Sunday 21st August 2016 Police received a call from a member of door staff at the Trek reporting that they had detained a male for assaulting a female. Police records state that when officers attended the premises and spoke to the female she was very drunk.

At 02:50 hours on Sunday 18th September 2016 a Police officer called via their Police radio that they needed another Police unit to join them and they had arrested someone for assault causing actual bodily harm. Police records state that while officers were transporting the suspect to Eastbourne Police custody he spent most of the journey being verbally abusive to them; he attempted to smash his head on the car window so an officer had to restrain him to prevent him causing damage to the car or injuring himself. He was too drunk and violent to be given his rights when he arrived at custody & had to be taken directly to a cell. Whilst in custody the following observations of the male were added to the custody log: at 03:35 hours he was kicking and punching his cell door, at 03:49 hours he was walking around his cell being verbally aggressive, at 04:02 hours he was seen to run at his cell door and start banging it.

Customers have routinely been allowed to become drunk whilst at the premises, often to excessive levels. When they have left the premises many have become involved in incidents, some have been assaulted, some have committed assaults, many have engaged in drunk, disorderly and ant-social behaviour and fights. In light of this public safety has clearly been put at significant risk and a disproportionate number of incidents involving crime and disorder have occurred at the premises.

[REDACTED]

Signature

Signature witnessed by:

PTO

(when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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Statement of: Hannah Elizabeth Rush

Age if under 18: Ov18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: Police Constable DR403

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date 20th September 2016Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

I am a police officer of thirteen years' experience, the last six of which I have been deployed on the alcohol harm reduction unit. I am assigned to Lewes District and I have passed the BIIAB national licensing qualification level two for licensing practitioners.

As reflected in the Summary Licence Review application, on Friday 8th July 2016 at 23:00hrs I attended The Trek in order to carry out a licensing check. Mrs Newton-Turner was present along with 'in house' door staff K**** R**, J**** S***** and head door man J**** R****. She directly said to me, whilst in the presence and hearing of her door staff, that she had told her staff "NOT TO CALL POLICE ANYMORE", and that "IT OBVIOUSLY GOES AGAINST US". I took this to mean that she had given instructions to her door staff not to report any further incidents to police because of what she perceived to be a detrimental effect on her premises. I was at the premises for around 45-50 minutes and at the end of our conversation, whilst still in the presence and hearing of door staff, Mrs Newton-Turner stated that "WELL OF COURSE MY HUSBAND AND I ARE IN THE ROTARY CLUB, WE DO A LOT OF WORK FOR CHARITY AND THE COMMUNITY, SO GOOD LUCK FINDING A COUNCILLOR WHO DOESN'T KNOW US". I took this to mean that they knew all the local councillors and that if the process ended in review then the police would lose due to the couples' connections.

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SUSSEX POLICE

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(when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1 11(T)

On Sunday 11th September 2016 at around 01:45hrs Police received reports of fifty people fighting in the street. When officers arrived at the location they stated that they could not leave the scene to arrest the main suspect as they were having to intervene in other fights which were breaking out in all directions in front of them. A member of door staff at the premises was seriously assaulted with injuries that were later confirmed to be a fractured eye socket, fractured cheek bone, broken nose, ruptured eye membrane and loss of movement and some sight out of one eye, these injuries are consistent with Grievous Bodily Harm. A male was arrested on the night shortly after the incident for this assault. A second member of door staff was also assaulted during the fight, which was recorded as assault occasioning Actual Bodily Harm; his injuries consisted of ligament and muscle damage to his jaw. Due to the seriousness of this incident a meeting was arranged with Mrs Newton-Turner at The Trek in order to view, seize and obtain CCTV and other evidence in relation to this assault. This meeting took place on Monday 12th September at 15:15hrs and was attended by myself, PS Vokins and LO Ms Wolfe and later on, the DPS's husband, Mr Turner, who is also a director of the Trek Club Limited. During this visit Mrs Newton-Turner said that she thought a lot of the recent fighting that had been taking place at the premises was between rival males from Seaford and Peacehaven who seemed to have territorial issues, but she admitted she had no evidence of this. Mrs Newton-Turner then stated that she had asked her DJ to turn the music down from 01:45hrs to a lower volume and calmer genre on the advice of the police during the meeting on the 10th June 2016 (we had actually requested she do this at 01:30hrs). She told us she did not want to admit that she had been wrong but said that it had indeed helped the customers leave the premises in a calmer manner. She told us that she had no idea who had called the Police or the ambulance on the night her two door staff were injured. No calls were recorded from any staff member at The Trek. There was still blood on the floor of the premises from the victim when we made our visit. We managed to view most of the footage of the night in question with Mr Turner's

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(when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1 . 11(T)

assistance. The footage showed two males being ejected from the dance floor by door staff out on to Blatchington road. These males were followed in quick succession by approximately thirty people who had exited the club after them. Almost immediately I could see fights break out in various locations along Blatchington road by the people who had just left the premises. As soon as one fight stopped another would start. I could not count the amount of fights I witnessed as there were so many, let alone any that occurred out of view of the cameras. There were clear signs of public disorder, violence and drunkenness. It was a chaotic scene and the door staff were wildly outnumbered. Public safety was clearly being put at risk. Throughout this time customers are still seen to be moving freely in and out of the club. The whole incident was horrifying to watch.

[REDACTED]

[Signature]



(when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B: Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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Statement of: Hannah Rush

Age if under 18: Ov18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Police Constable DR403

This statement (consisting of 7 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature:

Date 13th September 2016Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (sup5678741'ply witness details on rear)Further to my statement I wrote on the 20th September 2016 I have the following to add.


On Friday 20th May 2016 at around 23:00hrs I attended the Trek club and spoke to the head door man. I asked if Mrs Newton-Turner was available, but he told me that she was not. Whilst I was there I carried out general checks. I wanted clarification on two past incidents that had taken place at the premises where police officers had told me had not been covered by CCTV. One incident which took place on 7th February at 01:04hrs was of two females fighting by a photo booth, the police officer who attended the club was told by door staff that the CCTV did not cover this area. I asked the door staff where a photo booth would have been situated inside the club; He told me that was in the lounge and therefore would have been covered by the system. I then asked about another incident on the 3rd April 2016 at 01:20hrs where a male was found to be unconscious by the side of the premises. The area pointed out to me was not covered by the cameras I reminded staff about not allowing drunk people into the premises and to be mindful of customer's intoxication levels and the law around not serving to drunks and that I would contact Mrs Newton-Turner during the following week.

On Saturday 21st May 2016 I received an email from Mrs Newton-Turner explaining her dismay and disappointment with my 'damaging' visit to the premises on the 20th May 2016. She stated that



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(when complete)**WITNESS STATEMENT**

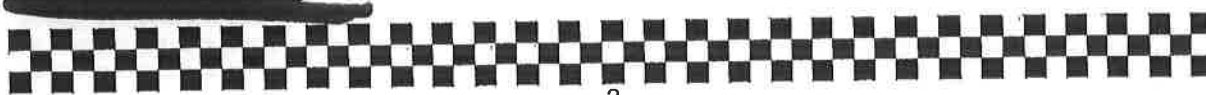
(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B: Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1 11(T)

my visit had seriously affected her staff and their morale. I found this to be very confusing and disappointing as I could not understand the anger that was being directed at me in the email. I had completed a perfectly normal licensing visit, checking details that I would in any licensed premises. I found it concerning that a DPS had reacted in this way, I also thought it be to highly unprofessional response for someone who should be promoting the licensing objectives. A copy of this email is attached to my statement.

Due to a number of violent incidents associated with the premises over a period of time I invited Mrs Newton-Turner into Seaford Police Station for a meeting in order to discuss our concerns. On Friday 10th June 2016 at 14:00hrs this meeting took place. I made contemporaneous notes of what was discussed during the meeting as did PS Vokins. During this meeting I did not see Mrs Newton-Turner write anything down. In my opinion Mrs Newton-Turner spent the first two hours of our meeting being extremely defensive, angry and hostile however by the time we had gone through a number of occurrences associated with the premises with her, I was under the impression that Mrs Newton-Turner was starting to understand the serious issues at the premises, the times they were taking place, and the reasons for our concern. We made a number of suggestions to Mrs Newton-Turner regarding our concerns. I then formally requested an Action Plan. Minutes of which can be found in the evidence bundle.

On Monday 13th June 2016 a letter, undersigned by myself and PS Vokins, was sent to Mrs Newton-Turner at the Trek outlining our concerns covered in the meeting and formally requesting an action plan for the following areas; Dispersal Policy, SIA Deployment Plan, Training for Staff regarding the sale of alcohol and an increase in the number of searches conducted as a condition of entry.

On Tuesday 14th June 2016 I received an email from Mrs Newton-Turner, which was also



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(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B: Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1 11(T)

circulated to other Seaford Pubwatch members, stating that due to the way the Police had treated her and the circumstances around her resignation, the person who was going to take over Pubwatch as Chair had now decided against it, and therefore Pubwatch was now disbanded. This caused me to feel a real concern as the Pubwatch system has always worked well, and I was worried that premises who would suffer, let alone the damage it would cause when people currently serving a ban found out and took advantage of the situation. In my opinion her actions undermined and destabilised the existing good work of the Seaford Pubwatch scheme and is not what would be expected of a responsible licensee who is duty bound to promote the licensing objectives.

On Tuesday 14th June 2016 Mrs Newton-Turner sent me an email which included her Action Plan along with three other attachments, being 'our drugs policy' which literally was a sheet of paper upon which was written "OUR DRUGS POLICY. NO DRUGS", a document containing a list of staff training (Fire Drill and staff training) and a notice to the DJ asking him to tone down the music at 01:45hrs.. Mrs Newton Turner admits in her action plan under 'SIA' that she has virtually nothing to do with the bar during opening hours due to her acting as a door supervisor. She also states that searching is the least effective form of finding drugs and that in 31 years there has only been around five items found that could be described as 'weapons'. All the documents are contained within the evidence bundle.

On Tuesday 14th June 2016 I received an email from PC Owen. Who was investigating a complaint against a member of door staff on Saturday 28th May 2016. PC Owen told me that Mrs Newton-Turner had been uncontactable. When CCTV was finally provided it did not show the offence, in fact it was only two minutes long and showed nothing at all. Mrs. Newton-Turner then said she was unable to provide more CCTV as the system over writes every nine days and blamed police for the



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(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1 11(T)

delay. PC Owen was extremely annoyed with the attitude of Mrs Newton-Turner and her lack of help in providing this crucial evidence when a member of her door staff had had a complaint made against him.

On Wednesday 22nd June 2016 at 13:33hrs I sent an email to Mrs. Newton-Turner introducing Ms. Wolfe as the new Licensing Officer taking over the district of Lewes and requesting a date that a meeting could be set up for an introduction. I also requested CCTV for an incident that took place on the 18th June 2016. This email is included in the evidence bundle.

On Thursday 23rd June 2016 I received a lengthy email from Mrs. Newton-Turner covering several topics. Including a dispute that a reduction in her opening hours could be achieved by a minor variation. Confirming her status as a front line door supervisor and her ability to employ SIA staff directly. A past incident involving the alleged dismissal of a police Inspector (which was untrue) and confirming the date for a meeting. A copy of this email is also included in the evidence bundle.

On 25th June 2016 Mrs Newton-Turner sent me an email regarding the collection of CCTV by another licensing officer. A copy of which is contained in the evidence bundle.

On 26th June 2016 Mrs Newton-Turner sent me another email regarding setting a date for a second meeting and including the fact that she wanted Sue Lindsey from the Licensing department of the Council invited along with Mr. Alan Sidders from Marc One security. A copy of which is included in the evidence bundle.

On 27th June 2016, I received an email from Mrs Newton-Turner confirming that Mr. Sidders could make the meeting on the 11th July 2016. A copy of which is included in the evidence bundle.

On Monday 11th July 2016 a meeting was held at The Trek club with Mrs Newton-Turner, Mr Turner, Mr Alan Sidders (Marc One Security), Sue Lindsey (Lewes District Licensing Officer), PS

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(when complete)**WITNESS STATEMENT**

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Vokins CV146, Licensing Officer Cathie Wolfe and myself. During this meeting I directly asked Alan Sidders how he felt that his staff had been told to not to call the Police in the event of an incident. He wasn't able to answer my question as he was over spoken. However I felt strongly that he should know what his staff had been directed to do by Mrs Newton-Turner. It became clear through the meeting that Mrs Newton-Turner now disputed the incidents raised by the police. The meeting almost prematurely ended at this juncture as it would be hard to continue the meeting or make any progress. Eventually it was agreed that a third meeting would be set up between Mrs Newton-Turner, Miss Lindsey and Ms Wolfe simply to discuss the incidents one by one. I reminded Mrs Newton-Turner that drugs should not be kept on the premises and that police needed to be informed as soon as practicable after finding or seizing drugs. She was not to walk them down to the police station and PS Vokins asked Mrs Newton-Turner to remove the line under one of her signs in the lobby which stated something to the effect of 'drugs will be walked to the Police Station as and when Yvonne is able'. Mrs Newton-Turner also said that she had been told in the previous meeting with PS Vokins and I that she had been told to 'self police' which was not the case. However we pointed out to her that Police could not be expected to be outside her nightclub on a permanent basis and that we were not there to run or secure her premises or look after the drunks when the club had closed as management of the premises is her responsibility.

On Tuesday 12th July at 19:01hrs I received an email from Mrs. Newton-Turner containing a copy of her own minutes from the meeting the day before. A document entitled 'Calendar of events Police Threats' and information in regards to the use of her CCTV. A copy of which is included in the evidence bundle.

On Friday 15th July 2016 Mrs Newton-Turner attended Seaford Police Station and handed in two sealed police evidence bags containing two separate amounts of drugs which had been seized at

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The Trek on 9th and 10th July 2016, despite being given clear advice by me to call the Police as soon as possible to prevent drugs being stored in the premises and *not* to personally deliver the drugs to the Police Station.

On the 24th July 2016 I received an email from PC Daniel regarding the assault on a male outside the Trek on the same date. He told me that it took the attending officers two hours to disperse people from The Trek and that he heard talk of organised fights between groups, whom he had to follow around the town in order to prevent any more violence taking place. He also confirms that a baseball bat was seen and that other weapons such as screwdrivers and knives were mentioned. In a further email dated the 27th July 2016 PC Daniel goes on to say that it seemed as though the nightclub had come out onto the street, split 50/50 and then wanted to fight each other. He states they were definitely drunk. A copy of this email is included in the evidence bundle.


On 25th July 2016 at 12:34hrs I received an email from Mrs Newton-Turner regarding the serious assault that took place on the 24th July 2016 where a male victim received injuries consistent with grievous bodily harm. She mentions the controversy over the jurisdiction of her cameras. Mrs. Newton-Turner then states that she is seeking legal advice with Barwells solicitors.

Regarding the serious assault that took place on the 24th July 2016, I went to see the male victim on Friday 19th August 2016. The male victim told me that he had been inside the Trek Nightclub before the incident took place on Blatchington road as he was leaving. He told me he considered himself drunk and said that he had started drinking at a friend's house and then continued to do so at the Trek until closing time. The victim showed me a number of photographs he had taken of his injuries over the course of the days which followed the attack. He permitted me to take screen shots of these photos, of which I made eight.

On Tuesday 30th August 2016 at 16:00hrs a Pubwatch meeting took place with a new Chair. The


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(when complete)**WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1
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meeting was attended by myself, PS Vokins and Mrs. Newton-Turner along with various other licensees. Mrs. Newton-Turner had emailed a list of incidents to the new Chair which had taken place at The Trek during the past few months. Approximately fourteen incidents were briefly raised. Most of these involved aggressive behaviour and drug possession, several of which had not been called into Police, including a sexual assault on a member of bar staff, a head-butt on a member of door staff, an argument between two males on the dance floor and a possession of a suspected illegal substance. The reason she gave for not calling the police when I asked was that those particular nights had been really busy, which in my opinion is simply not good enough. Given the fact that Mrs Newton-Turner was on an action plan for the premises and was well aware of our concerns around violence at the premises, I could not believe the number of incidents that had not been called into police. It was clear to me that under the Licensing Act 2003 the licensing objectives of prevention of crime and disorder and public safety were far from being promoted. In my opinion Mrs. Newton-Turner has put public safety at risk and failed to follow the advice that she has been given by myself, PS Vokins and Mr. Sidders. Her standards have fallen way below what I would expect from a DPS.

On Tuesday 13th September 2016 I attended the Trek at 08:30hrs and collected two discs containing the CCTV footage relating to the serious assault on a member of security staff on the 11th September 2016 which had been requested on 12th September 2016. However after viewing both discs it became apparent that not all the footage we had requested had been provided, including that from within the premises. 



Rush Hannah DR403

From: The Trek Club [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 May 2016 17:31
To: Rush Hannah DR403
Cc: Sue Lindsey
Subject: Your visit to the Trek Club Friday 20th May 2016

Importance: High

Dear Hannah,

I was quite shocked when I went down to work on Saturday morning following your visit to the club. I understand that the Police are unhappy with the way the club is being run, drawing particular attention to trouble outside the Trek Club and the lack of control over people who you claim we are letting in when drunk or who we allow to continue drinking until they get drunk.

Please can you furnish me with the dates and incidences relating to the above and the sources of your information because this is not coming from uniformed Police Officers as far as I know, because we rarely see any of them.

The only singular incident which you commented on was two girls who had a fight in front of the photo booth inside the club and which my Head Doorman remembered clearly as an inconsequential argument. So where has that information come from which is completely inaccurate. Certainly not from a uniformed Police Officer as I was working that night and there were no Police in the club at that time and it simply did not happen. It's a shame you did not raise it when you were informed as we have very good CCTV coverage of that area so we could have easily disproved it.

As I understand it you examined the Incident book which shows an assault on a girl on Friday 8th April, 2 accounts of class A on the 9th, the removal of an aggressive male on the 15th and two assaults outside on the 7th May. Not a great many incidences for this period of time and the numbers through the door.

I also understand you questioned the staff about the limits of the control they administer off the Trek Club property. Legally this has always been a grey area and our general policy has been that they do not go outside of camera vision because in the past the Police have actually investigated charges of assault by my door staff when they have been trying to control incidences up the road and they have been accused of assaulting the very people who have been attacking someone else. So now they are limited to as far as the cameras reach so they are protected.

As you are aware I have three door staff and myself on a Friday for 53 customers. We now have 4 directly employed [REDACTED] (is off having had a gallstone operation) on a Saturday, one all night contracted in (2 whilst [REDACTED] is off) and the two doormen from the Shore who come down about 1.30am plus myself. All these for about 250 customers. This is so we can control who comes on to the car park from the gate whilst having a real presence right through the club. It also ensures that any problems the Shore has had we get a full account of and immediate identification of the perpetrators.

We have set up What's App originally Shore to Trek and vice versa and now have rolled it out through Pubwatch- a much more efficient system than Pubwatch Online but in addition to it not to replace it.

I have always worked hard to appease everyone and to run the club efficiently and safely, trying hard to work with the Police and my neighbours. Allegations made against the club relating to violence and litter by one neighbour was proven to be completely unfounded.. Your comment about the club 'would not get a licence in today's climate' was probably accurate as the Conservative Policy is to destroy the licensed trade in this country (because of the problems and culture of binge drinking and drug taking) which is understandable but which was fuelled by Tony Blair's stab at popularity with the idea of 24 hour drinking. However under current licensing laws I consider I operate a perfectly legal business adhering to all the bench practices of this industry. However approximately 300 people every week come and enjoy the club and find it a welcome break from the trials and tribulations of everyday life. Countries where such amenities are not favoured in particular the Scandinavian countries suffer an enormously high rate of suicides which I believe is the consequence of not being able to let their hair down. Of course there are always those few people who spoil it all for the rest of us and yes it would probably

make the life of the Police Officer easier if there were no late licensed premises or any licensed premises at all and probably add on to that no football games and so on. Where would it end? Also let's not forget the taxes, business rates and employment this business brings to the local area .

I cannot amplify enough though, the damage that visits like this do to my staff. They have been completely demotivated. [REDACTED] who is newly badged was completely shocked by your attitude and will now have this as his first experience of a Police Officer dealing with what they see as a problem- no facts, no evidence, just damning accusations.

The Police just always seem to target the club which they have closed down illegally three times, arrested myself for trying to pervert the course of justice and in the case of Inspector Brunstrum who took me to court only to lose his job because of all of his lies, I am wiser now.

I look forward to receiving the information and evidence requested above so that it can be examined and if possible a better solution found.

I would also take this opportunity to advise you that I will be standing down as Chair of Pubwatch at the next AGM which is in November due to personal commitments.

Regards,
Yvonne

(when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1)

URN

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Statement of:

MARTIN TNEBLKE


Age if under 18: 019

(if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation:

This statement (consisting of 2 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature:



CT 212

Date 19/9/16

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

On Sunday 18th September at 01.30 hours, I was on duty in full uniform and had been requested to visit the Trek 2 nightclub in Seaford to monitor the behaviour of the customers and staff, after a series of incidents and complaints recently.

My current role within Sussex Police is that of a licensing Police constable assigned to the Wealden area; I have attained the BIIAB Level 2 National Certificate for Licensing Practitioners.

On arrival at the premises I spoke to Sgt Kevin Leete who was alone outside as his staff had been called to assist with other calls. I went into the club and spoke to the head doorman who told me that Yvonne Newton - Turner, the premises licence holder and Designated Premises Supervisor was not present, as she was away.

There were eight door staff working; some of Mrs. Newton-Turner's own door staff team, two from the Shore Bar also in Seaford and another who had been asked to assist by one of the door staff. I was informed by the head doorman that there were 160 customers in the premises.

I went into the premises and viewed the customers' behaviour from the corner of the bar area. All drinks were being served in plastic receptacles, the atmosphere seemed fairly friendly, although there was some clear drunkenness, with people staggering, unsteady on their feet. The music was loud and on my way out I asked the head doorman when the music would be turned down. I was told 01:45 hours, as the music volume is meant to be gradually lowering, however the doorman stated he would need to remind the DJ as he forgets to do this.

I then walked out of the club through the courtyard and stood in the street, and monitored the customers and staff behaviour from there.

The customers were noisy, especially in the smoking area. A couple of times the door staff moved in when customers became a little too boisterous. I noticed that even at 01.50 hours, people were still allowed to re-enter the main gate into the courtyard after leaving.

The courtyard and the smoking area were both extremely noisy, with shouting and even screaming on occasions. The smoking area is in the front corner of the courtyard and other than a wooden roof, fairly open plan, making the 30 + persons present sound even louder.

The courtyard has wooden seats scattered around and I would estimate there was between 40-60 people outside the club, at any one time. This is obviously constantly changing as people come out to smoke and hang around.

Another issue is that the front doors of the club are permanently open. As customers emerge from the club to smoke or congregate in the courtyard the noise levels increase as the internal doors open, allowing the sound of the music inside to mix with the noise of the customers in the courtyard area.

I also noticed that people mill around the perimeter wall which backs on to an alleyway; residential properties are only metres away from this alleyway.

There were also several drunk females one of whom was on the point of being sick, obviously retching, and very pale, helped out of the club to sit on the wall by a friend, with her head between her legs. Another was crying into her mobile, again very drunk and could hardly walk. I monitored

Continuation of statement of

MARTIN TINSLEY CTM

this female as I was concerned for her and saw her eventually stagger across the road and ask a couple of girls if they could drop her off on their way home.

Whilst outside in the road I could still hear the music coming from the club and finally at 02:00 hours, the music stopped and the customers started to spill out.

By 02.15 hours the doors of the club were closed but the customers were not moving from the courtyard very quickly, and when they did finally leave, at around 02.30 hours after the door staff had ushered them out and turned out the flood lights and shut the entrance gate, they seemed to hover outside the gate, which in a residential area generates a great deal of noise.

I was concerned that there was several drunk males 'play fighting', which can often escalate to a full fight, in certain circumstances.

At times, customers would see our uniforms, and come up to us. Most were fairly civil, asking the usual questions, such as haven't you got anything better to do, or asking for a lift home, however I saw PS Leete in conversation with one male and his two friends. This male was clearly drunk, slurring his words and unsteady on his feet. I cannot recall the conversation as it was mostly nonsense, to the point his friends apologised and dragged him away.

Whilst there had been approximately 160 persons in the club, there were now around 100-120 people in the courtyard and the road outside the club. As cars/cabs came down to pick up, myself and PS Leete would constantly ask people to move out of the way for their own safety.

The door staff did not leave the court yard and seemed reluctant to venture into the road to encourage people to move on. This meant by around 02:40 hours there was 40-50 loud people standing in the road. Taxi's had been present but ran out by 02.20 hours.

I asked the six door staff who were behind the gate why they don't move people on; I was told that this is a 'grey area' and 'Yvonne' (Mrs. Newton-Turner) had not given any guidance regarding this. I explained that possibly having a couple of staff members gently encouraging people to move on would help the noise and anti-social behaviour issues.

Eventually people moved off noisily up the street towards the town and station. There were some bottles scattered along the street. I cannot confirm if they were glass or plastic.

At around 02.45 hours I liaised with supervision, and did a couple of laps of the town, which now had numerous groups of the customers from the Trek hanging around waiting for cabs.

As I drove back to Hailsham I heard a report of an assault come in over the radio and for officers to attend Seaford railway station to deal with the victim who had facial injuries. This incident has now been linked to the Trek Nightclub as both the victim and the suspect admit they had been drinking in the club.

I later checked the custody photograph of the male involved in the assault and I can confirm this was the same person who had come up to myself and PS Leete outside the club at around 02.25 hours as mentioned earlier in this statement.



Signature

Signature witnessed by:

PTO


WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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Statement of: Alan Sidders

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: Operations Manager

This statement (consisting of 6 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature:

Date 16th September 2016Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

I am the Sussex area operations manager for Marc One security. I manage Security Industry training, hiring of individuals, overseeing premises including how my staff are working, health and safety legislation, policies and procedures, risk assessments, leave requests, cover and wages. I supply staff to roughly eight premises across the South East including Eastbourne. I employ around forty staff. Staff supply their own uniform although what they wear is stipulated by Marc One. We do have a small supply of stab vests on hand if they are required for a certain events, however none of the doors I currently oversee require this level of protection.

For approximately a year I have been supplying a limited number of security industry trained door supervisors to a premises called The Trek in Seaford. On average this would be one individual on a Friday night and two on a Saturday night between 01:00hrs – 02:00hrs and on occasion 22:00hrs-02:00hrs. For around the past six months the two SIA trained males I have sent to the Trek are J [redacted] and M [redacted] G [redacted]. Both males work at another premises on a Friday and Saturday evening until 01:00hrs and then they go on to the Trek until closing time. I occasionally cover door supervision across all the premises I supply staff to and I have recently spent a number of weeks working at The Trek nightclub at the request of Mrs Newton-Turner. Mrs Newton-Turner owns and runs the Trek. This was in order to offer suggestions to make improvements for the rest



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MG11



WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

11(T)

of her door staff who are all employed 'in-house'. I made several suggestions for improvements. The suggestions I made were to invest in body worn cameras for at least the front door staff. For staff to adopt static positions within the club itself so that staff are visible and accessible. Opening both front doors instead of just one and controlling entry at the front gates and not at the front doors to give better control of who was entering the premises. I wanted more ID checks and searches to be carried out but I was told that they already knew most of the customers and so this was not necessary. Having worked at the premises for the agreed six weeks I handed the running of the club to the in-house door staff who immediately reverted back to their previous working practices. By immediately I mean the night after I stopped working there. I am aware that only the two recommended body worn cameras have been put into place but they are not used due to no harnesses having been purchased. None of my other recommendations have been taken on board, other than on occasion entry is controlled on the front gates. I also told Mrs Newton-Turner that I did not agree with her dual rolling as both SIA and as the DPS. I told her it was frowned upon as neither role could be carried out to full capacity and was not considered best practice. I am aware that she has not taken this advice on board. I have also provided Mrs Newton-Turner Marc One incident sheets which are specifically designed and used across all of my venues. All staff use them to record any incident and they are uniform across the entire area. My staff also expect to sign in and out at the start and end of their shift in venues which I have complete control over, but in my experience this is not always the case at The Trek.

On the evening of the 23rd July 2016 I was working at The Trek in the capacity of door supervision. It must have been around closing time on the 24th July. I was inside the club when I heard a shout over the radio. It was something about 'All staff to the gates' I immediately attended the front gates and saw door supervisors breaking up a large group of males and one male on the ground who



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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

11(T)

was being attended to. This was roughly by the 'no entry' sign situated about 15 metres from the front gates of the premises. My personal priority was to attend the male who was on the ground as I am trained in first aid and he appeared to be unconscious. When I got to the male he was indeed unconscious and unresponsive. He did however have a pulse and he was breathing. I made him as comfortable as I could given his head injury. I placed him on his left hand side and I could see blood all over his face, which seemed to be coming from an obvious cut on the top of his forehead. I then became aware that another fight was taking place just metres away from me and the injured male on the lower road of Blatchington. I saw a black 4 x 4 Land Rover parked outside the first house on the lower road. I heard the doors of the vehicle being slammed shut and saw a male came from that direction carrying what looked like a baseball bat with both hands gripped to it and it was being carried toward his right hand side. I did not recognise this male but would describe him as white, around 5ft 5" in height, with shabby dark hair, of slight build. He had no facial hair, I cannot recall what he was wearing and I did not see anything else such as tattoos or piercings from where I was situated. I had no obstructions to my view and at the closest point I was stood only three feet away. As soon as I saw the bat I immediately started to move towards him in a defensive stance. I could hear and see him shouting to the group that were fighting on the lower road but I cannot recall what he said. However he did raise the baseball bat as he was doing this. I approached him and instinctively went to grab the baseball bat from him. Due to having been dealing with the unconscious male I was wearing latex gloves which were covered in the victim's blood. As I went to grab the bat I took hold of it but it slipped out of my hand. The male then pulled the bat away from me and had started to move it backwards in order to take a swing at me. At this point I heard somebody shout "SCREWDRIVER" which I took to mean another weapon had been seen. The shout had come from behind me and with a very quick glance I could see people pointing in my direction. At this point I felt the threat to my personal safety was too high and



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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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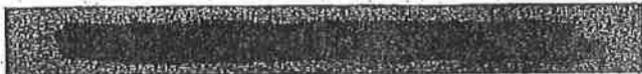
decided to retreat. The male with the baseball bat then turned away from me and headed back toward the group of males who were still fighting on the lower part of Blatchington Road. At that point we decided to stay where we were and control what we could in the vicinity. I can say that at no time during the last five years that I have been back working on the doors has anyone threatened me with such a weapon or in fact any weapon that they have brought with them. I work at least two - three nights a week on the doors and have done so for the past five years. Even with my experience I was really shocked by this incident and how it could have ended up with the potential level of violence.

In the early hours of Sunday the 11th September 2016 I was working at a club in Eastbourne. I received a text message at 02:13hrs from  who is the wife of one of my door staff who works at the Trek,  She informed me that  had been involved in a serious incident at The Trek and he was currently waiting on an ambulance. I then received a text message from  at 02:20hrs who stated that the injuries were worse than first thought and that  had at least a broken nose and they were still awaiting the ambulance. I continued to receive updates from  every twenty minutes until around 05:00hrs. On the afternoon of Sunday 11th September on his way home from the hospital,  came to see me at my home address. He told me the full extent of his injuries which included a broken nose, complicated fracture of the cheek bone, multiple complicated fractures of the eye socket and eye floor and a partially detached eye retina - the full extent of which would not be known until all the swelling had gone down. He looked a real state. Further updates from the hospital have informed  that he may not fully recover and he may be left with life changing injuries. Further consultations are ongoing and surgery is a possible option. If this had happened to someone with less experience or someone with a smaller build I have real concerns that we could have been dealing with a fatality.



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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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In my professional opinion in order to improve the overall standard of the door supervision of the venue I would need to have complete control over it. I would have six of my own staff at the minimum, probably starting with eight. I would need Mrs Newton-Turner to stick to her role as DPS and allow me the authority to carry out my duties as I see fit. Even so I would say that it would still take at least six months to improve the situation at the club. I have such concerns over this premises that under section 2 of the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act in line with my duty of care towards my staff I am reviewing the policies, procedures and risk assessment for this premises. I have to seriously consider whether it would be appropriate to provide my staff with additional PPE (personal protective equipment) including stab vests with blunt force trauma capability and slash resistant gloves. At none of my other premises has this even had to be a consideration. I would also seriously recommend that Mrs Newton-Turner install an ID scanning system, similar to Scan Net. Scan Net would link into Brighton which would be beneficial to the town being located so close.

With regards to the dispersal at the premises I am aware that Mrs Newton-Turner now turns her music down at 01:45hrs. I have been made aware that Police recommended this change to take place at 01:30hrs. Alcohol is continued to be served until 02:00hrs and customers are allowed to take their drinks outside to the forecourt area to finish them off. If I were to have control of the premises I would make sure that no drink vessels of any kind were allowed outside. In fact none of my other premises allow this to happen and has been the case for many years. I would also implement a no entry, re-entry system to the premises. I would suggest that no entry be made to the club after 01:15hrs and that no re-entry be made at the same time. So once people have left the club they are not allowed to come back in. Another measure I would put in place would be to have the front yard used only as a smoking area and limit the amount of people allowed in this



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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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area to around twenty.



RESTRICTED (when complete)**WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1)

URN

Statement of:

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation:

This statement (consisting of 12 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature: (Signed

Date 15th September 2016.Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

I am the above named person and reside at the address shown overleaf which is situated in BLATCHINGTON ROAD SEAFORD in the County of East Sussex.

I have lived at this location for nearly years having purchased the property in October 20. Prior to this, I have lived in places such as Brighton and Brixton in South London. When I lived in Brixton I was working as a Psychiatric Nurse in Camberwell. I am used to living in busy bustling areas with plenty of noise from the surrounding environment at all times of the day and night. When I moved to BLATCHINGTON ROAD I assumed I would be living in a quieter area albeit I was aware that close by and around yards further along from my house is a licensed premises called 'THE TREK' which operates as a nightclub. The main gated entrance to the front courtyard of THE TREK is approximately yards further down the hill from my front door on the same side of the road. Outside the main gated entrance to THE TREK is the area used as a taxi rank where customers are picked up and dropped off. (End of Page One – Signed

Leading from the taxi rank area outside the front of the premises gates, there is another one way street which runs parallel to my street but above it, which takes you back towards Seaford town centre. When THE TREK nightclub closes at 0200 hours on Saturday and Sunday mornings, during the clearing out process the customers often congregate at the bottom of the hill of the upper one way street and this is where the problems begin.

When I purchased my property I wasn't naïve to think that I wouldn't experience any noise during the early hours emanating from customers leaving THE TREK at closing time. I expected an element of noise from people leaving a nearby nightclub, but as I fell in love with the area and the ambiance, an element of noise was something I could accept, but what I have come to experience over the past years is certainly not what I anticipated and is completely unacceptable. Every weekend on a regular basis the customers that leave THE TREK nightclub are invariably very drunk or intoxicated and more often than not, they are aggressive

Continuation of statement of [REDACTED] and behaving like animals, which indicates to me that they are also under the influence of controlled substances. Their behaviour, the aggression, the fighting and 10 months or so ago, having witnessed drugs being snorted by people leaving THE TREK and directly opposite my house, this type of behaviour coupled with the regular violence, noise, alcohol related disorder, shouting and swearing and general level of disruption is not what I had anticipated would occur on a regular (End of Page Two - Signed [REDACTED]) basis, every Friday and Saturday night during the early hours. I am familiar with the effects and impact of current recreational drug misuse and persons' behaviour, as professionally I liaise with [REDACTED] who are the Brighton and Hove Substance Misuse Service, and as such I can identify persons who behave in a more violent and/or disinhibited manner. When I say disinhibited I can include types of behaviour such as lack of bodily functions and sexual inhibitions. Given that the properties along my street are very close to the road as there is a very narrow pavement, on a regular basis over most weekends I have experienced customers, having left THE TREK, having sex in my front doorway, defecating on my doorstep, banging my front window, standing and drinking in my doorway for sometimes up to 30 minutes, shouting and swearing and vomiting outside of my front door. I regularly hear conversations between males and females and often same sex couples, relating to having sex and this usually results in persons trying to persuade the other person into having sexual intercourse and all outside my front door. Since April 2016 the defecating has slightly subsided as I installed a [REDACTED] around that time. The rest of the behaviour still continues as persistent as ever. This isn't something that I experience on my own; this is a huge ongoing problem which affects everyone along my street.

The drunkenness of customers leaving THE TREK is quite obvious given their behaviour, the levels of disorder and chaos, the fact that many of them are staggering along the road, often falling over (End of Page Three - Signed [REDACTED]) due to the levels of intoxication. This often happens even when THE TREK is having a quieter evening in terms of numbers of customers. Last Friday night into Saturday morning, at around 0230 hours, I was woken up by a group of people trying to persuade a young female to go back to their house. She was falling over and staggering around due to her drunkenness and they were concerned for her. She was shouting and screaming and they were trying to get her to calm down. I have some worse than this female and even on quiet nights at THE TREK I am still always woken up by noise, violence, shouting and screaming or similar.

On a regular basis when groups of males and females congregate at the bottom of the hill and walk up towards the town centre, amongst the drunken and drug-fuelled chaos and mayhem, the men take their

Signature _____

Signature witnessed by: _____

PTO

Continuation of statement of [REDACTED]
shirts off as I see them start fights and behave like animals. The removal of shirts and general violence and comments by individuals about committing violence has got worse over recent months. On one weekend in August 2016, there was a very frightening incident which occurred outside of THE TREK. I was woken up by the screech of a black 4 x 4 vehicle, which came to a stop following some very loud fighting in the road. Although I didn't see exactly what happened, I am told that a couple of men got out of the vehicle armed with a baseball bat. The vehicle was parked at an angle and half mounting the pavement [REDACTED]. The situation for the past [REDACTED] years, is that I have not had an unbroken night's sleep, every single weekend of the year. I anticipate that (End of Page Four - Signed [REDACTED]) this will continue. The situation remains intolerable and I say this as someone who is very tolerable, level-headed and easy-going. I'm not someone who complains a lot or twitches the curtains and I am not against people enjoying themselves and having a good time, but I have been pushed beyond the limit. I have lost count of the number of times I have heard the sound of a skull hitting the tarmac on the road outside and seeing a person lay motionless for a few minutes. Thankfully most of the time, the individuals get back up unaffected or so it seems. My main worry is that one day someone will be assaulted and killed given the fighting and aggression displayed by some individuals who leave THE TREK who are under the influence of drink and/or drugs. Quite often there is an element of voyeurism, as persons leave THE TREK and seem to enjoy congregating in order to watch the violence. The whole thing seems to me, as if some people go to THE TREK to have a 'punch-up' at the end of the night. This is bigger than just a core of people and is indicated by their conversations about hitting people. Lots of males who leave THE TREK at 0200 hours seem very 'pumped-up' and looking for violence and removing their shirts.

[REDACTED] This was shortly after moving into my house. I believe the lady who owns the premises is called YVONNE. Shortly after moving in, around 20 [REDACTED] I was trying to resolve the problems by using a "softly-softly" or [REDACTED] approach. [REDACTED] (End of Page Five - Signed [REDACTED] Yvonne inferred strongly, [REDACTED] that the police were lacking in support of managing the situation at closing time and that her door staff weren't permitted to leave the gated area outside of her premises. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the evening involving the black 4 x 4 motor vehicle and mention of a baseball bat, which was in August 2016. That was the only time I had the confidence to stand outside of my front porch way and

Signature

Signature witnessed by:

PTO

Continuation of statement of [REDACTED]
that was only because the police were there as well as a number of my neighbours. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] amongst the mayhem and upset
which the police were trying their best to deal with.

My honest opinion is that if THE TREK nightclub was a club in Brighton, then it would have been shut down by now.

I have grown-up children, who are a [REDACTED] and the situation is that they feel unable to come to my house to stay for a weekend as they know that they will not get a night's sleep. This is an awful situation as we are an extremely close family. Recently, it was my [REDACTED] birthday and my children would only come over during the Sunday day-time. Given the risk of lack of sleep and/or incidents outside THE TREK they declined my invitation to stay over on the (End of Page Six - Signed [REDACTED] Saturday evening.

Due to the disruption every weekend for the past 2 years, I have had to factor this in to my working week. For example, if I am working over the weekends and will therefore be getting up early, I have to sleep either in the back bedroom or bathroom and sometimes I stay with my mother in her retirement village in DITCHLING. If there is a lot of noise and violence outside of THE TREK, then I can still hear the commotion and feel the need to respond and this is with all of the windows shut. The whole situation is intolerable and given a persistent lack of sleep and interrupted sleep, this has caused me an increase in fear, having a knock-on effect on increased stress and anxiety. I feel very vulnerable as I am living right on top of the problems every weekend. The constant disruptions have caused me to have an exaggerated reaction to more mundane situations which occur every day such as a knock at the window or a knock at the door. Consequently my quality of life has been affected considerably.

The problems I experience have impacted on my work as I cannot function at the normal required level due to stress and tiredness. I know that the impact from customers leaving THE TREK goes further afield than just my road as I know that car wing mirrors are regularly damaged by individuals walking back into the town centre.

Further to the problems I have described over the past [REDACTED] years, last weekend proved no exception. (End of Page Seven - Signed [REDACTED])

On Sunday 11th September 2016, I was woken up at approximately 01.30 hours. I was sleeping in the front

Signature _____

Signature witnessed by: _____

PTO

Continuation of statement of [REDACTED] bedroom which is my actual bedroom. All of the windows were shut and I had gone to bed at around 22:30 hours on the Saturday night. I had been informed quite late on the Saturday evening that I was required to work the following day, so it was too late to make other arrangements of where to sleep.

When I was woken up I remember thinking, "THIS IS EARLIER THAN USUAL". The noise that woke me up was horrible. I would describe it as like a lot of grown men roaring and girls screaming. This is the kind of noise that makes my heart sink, even though I have heard it countless times before. I went to my front bedroom window and opened it slightly and to my left, in the road directly in front of THE TREK, I could see around 50 persons congregating and within that, two pockets of persons involved in intense fighting. This was extending towards the bottom of the hill near to my house. I decided that this looked completely out of control, so I decided that a 999 call would be more appropriate than a 101 call to police. It was very dark in the area where the two pockets were and there is street-lighting but this wasn't illuminating the area that well.

There were so many people gathered in a small area, so it was difficult to see who was fighting and who wasn't and groups were moving around. I could make out that several persons were throwing punches in different (End of Page Eight – Signed [REDACTED]) directions and there was a lot of aggressive shouting. I could hear the words "GET HIM". Because of the number of persons gathering, the noise was like a roar with girls screaming, and it was difficult to see how many people were fighting.

As I continued to monitor outside, I was speaking to the operator on the phone, and reporting what was happening. As I relayed this information, I stayed on the line and then went downstairs and opened my front door, but only partially, because I was petrified as the commotion was really close. As I watched over to my left-hand side, the two pockets of people fighting had become three pockets and the crowds were closer to my house and located at the bottom of the hill and along the top/upper road in front of my house. I then saw two males taking their shirts off and preparing to join in. They emerged from the right of my house as you look out. These two males joined the pockets, but I cannot say whether they joined in the fighting as it was chaos and very dark. I would say that the two males were in their 20's, from their stature and build but I cannot describe any more about them. Almost at the same time, I partially saw and heard an adult male fall to the ground. I heard the thud as he hit his head. This was at the bottom of the hill. He got up after 20-30 seconds, but I couldn't really see much more as he was consumed by the groups of people and general mayhem. At this point, feeling mildly relieved that the male had recovered or seemingly so, I closed my front door and put the chain (End of Page Nine – Signed [REDACTED]) across. I returned to my front bedroom window and looked out again. At this point, within seconds, the crowd seemed to disperse and I

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Signature witnessed by: _____

PTO

Continuation of statement of [REDACTED]
then recall seeing a group of around 12 men, moving along the upper road [REDACTED]. I heard a male voice shout, "QUICK, THE ROZZERS ARE COMING. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A PART OF THIS."

At the same time, a police CCTV van arrived along BLATCHINGTON ROAD [REDACTED] coming to a halt just outside the "Old Dairy"/Garage, just before THE TREK nightclub. The situation then became a great deal quieter and people were dispersing. As I felt safer at this point, I went outside directly to speak to a police officer that I could see coming out of the CCTV van. I commented to him about how quickly everyone had dispersed and he ruefully agreed as if that's always the way and it felt like a shared frustration.

I advised the officer about the group of males that had run along the upper road towards the town, and that this was immediately before they arrived in the van. At this stage I went back inside my house, and was aware that a police unit was being despatched to follow that up and the police vehicle that had arrived after the van, was sent up the upper road to check out the group.

At this point, I went back to bed to try and get some sleep but was now too alert to do this, so started to plan my day at work which included arranging cover for my shift in the morning as I was far too tired (End of Page Ten - Signed [REDACTED] to go to work in the daytime. I was far too "wired" to work my early shift, so I worked a late shift instead.

There are so many aspects to THE TREK. It is not just the violence. It's the general anti-social behaviour and the behaviour and demeanour of customers that leave in the early hours, every weekend. If the customers just dispersed and egressed up the hill then it wouldn't be so much of a problem. However, they congregate and come out very pumped up and this seems to fuel the violence. The level of intoxication seems to have gone up another notch, coupled with the associated level of violence. If this carries on, it is only a matter of time before someone is struck and falls over and is fatally wounded. Just to clarify, when I described the group moving along the upper road back towards the town, it was two separate voices that made the comment. One male said, "QUICK, THE ROZZERS ARE COMING" and it was another male who said, "YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A PART OF THIS. COME ON, GET OUT OF HERE". This male I would describe as white, in his 20's, quite tall around 6'0" in height. He was wearing a red coloured top but some white coloured feature on it. He had dark hair and his voice, along with the other voice was agitated. They moved really quickly. The male in the red top seemed to be commanding the group to get away from the scene at the bottom of the hill. When I saw him, he had reached the point [REDACTED] on the upper road, before the bushes. Given that only 30 seconds or so had elapsed from (End of Page Eleven - Signed

[REDACTED] when the male in the red top moved along the top/upper road [REDACTED] to

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Continuation of statement of [REDACTED]
when the police CCTV van arrived, this prompted me to go outside and inform the police officer. Otherwise I wouldn't have been brave enough to venture outside. I did not go outside immediately to speak to the officer in the van; it was at least 10 minutes or so.

By the time I tried to go back to sleep, as I felt safe enough as everyone had dispersed, I sent an e-mail first of all to a man called Steve Bell, whom I believe works with the local MP and is someone whom my neighbour [REDACTED] advised me to report any incidents to. This statement is partially taken from my original notes I made at the time to assist in describing the events.

Having worked for the NHS for 36 years, I have experienced many difficult and often extreme situations involving human nature and by no means am I naïve, but what I have experienced and described above is beyond a level that I can continue to sustain indefinitely and needs addressing as a priority.

I am prepared to support police in whatever action they may take and will attend court if required. (End of statement – Signed [REDACTED] Date 15.09.2016. Countersigned by PC CW456 [REDACTED]).

Signature _____

Signature witnessed by: _____

PTO