



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Susan Lindsey
Licensing Officer
Southover House
Southover Road, Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1AB

3 October 2016

Dear Miss Lindsey

Re: The Review of the Premises License for The Trek Nightclub, Blatchington Road, Seaford

Following a request by a number of residents in Seaford to Maria Caulfield, the Member of Parliament for Lewes, to meet with her and discuss their concerns, Ms Caulfield asked me to represent her at the meeting to understand their issues. At the meeting, the residents expressed concerns about being able to provide evidence without being identified, as they were concerned about repercussions, therefore it was agreed that all evidence would be provided to me and I would protect their identities and keep their evidence anonymous.

I am now in possession of their evidence, and on their behalf wish to make representation in relation to the Review submitted by Sussex Police. On behalf of the residents, from whom written authority for me to speak on their behalf has been obtained, we do not believe the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and prevention of public nuisance are being upheld by the Trek.

I represent 29 families of local residents, who live in Blatchington Road, Broad Street, Chichester Road or in the very near vicinity to the Trek, and have attached their emails and letters which demonstrate sustained noise and anti-social behavior which has been caused by people arriving and leaving the Trek. The residents have tried to speak to the owners of the Trek, Mr & Mrs Newton-Turner, but their concerns have been ignored and the scenes of violence and very high end public nuisance is experienced by the local residents every time the Trek is open. Their concerns are listed below, and confirmed in their emails/ letters or during conversations with me:

- Not able to sleep with their windows open due to the screaming, shouting and swearing coming from the street at the time the Trek closes and for hours after.
- One resident is forced to sleep in the back of their house – in the bathroom – to get any rest at weekends.
- Fearing for their safety
- Regularly being woken by fighting in the street
- Their children waking up screaming with fear from the noises coming from outside.
- Seeing people getting hurt and being fearful that someone will get seriously hurt or worse.
- Relatives not visiting them at weekends, as they cannot stand the noise and violence
- Spending the weekend away as often as possible



- Waking for work on a Monday morning being completely exhausted after being kept up until the early hours by the noise in the street below over the weekend.
- Defecation and urinating on door steps and in the street.
- Clearing up vomit from their door steps and having to walk through vomit in the alley.
- Lewdness and sexual acts in the streets and on peoples cars
- Damage to property and vehicles

The ongoing problems suffered by the residents by the Trek have been relentless, and they have been told that the people causing the issues are people passing by and not customers of the Trek. However, the residents have subsequently contacted me to advise me that in the past two weekends, following the Licensing Committee closing the premises, their lives have been changed for the better significantly. They have told me:

- They have been able to sleep with the bedroom windows open
- They have been able to sit downstairs until quite late, not worrying that the light in the lounge will attract customers of the Trek who will bang on their windows.
- They have slept undisturbed
- They didn't realise how desensitised they had become to the voice and the behaviour in the street
- Their lives have now changed for the better.
- Been able to invite family members over to stay and enjoy their grandchildren staying with them.
- Being able to spend the night at home when on shift work for early starts

On behalf of the residents that have requested I act on their behalf, I confirm that we fully support the police request for the premises license of the Trek to be permanently closed and request that the Licensing Committee take this action to ensure their lives are no longer blighted by the customers and owners of the Trek Nightclub.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Steve Bell CBE

Office of Maria Caulfield MP
Member of Parliament for Lewes

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 September 2016 19:44
To: BELL, Steve; <Jean.Irving@sussex.pnn.police.uk>
Subject: RE: blatchington road

Hi Steve.

Are you linked with Carolyn Lambert at all? Whilst I was at work she knocked on our door asking to speak to me about the trek. She then left leaflets with other properties asking to report 'any local problems' (not naming the trek). I did email her over a year ago about the trek which just resulted in her speaking with the owners to be told they run a great club and control all the problems which closed the case. So her visiting again last week was a strange coincidence in timing.

Many thanks. I'll send some written statements from some residents on Friday.

On 13 Sep 2016 15:46, "BELL, Steve" <steve.bell@parliament.uk> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you, that would be great

Steve Bell CBE

Office of Maria Caulfield MP

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

0207 219 5946



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 September 2016 15:35
To: BELL, Steve <steve.bell@parliament.uk>; <Jean.Irving@sussex.pnn.police.uk>

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 October 2016 19:46
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Amended statement

Hi Steve,

Hope you are well.

Here is my amended statement.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

I give permission for Steve Bell to speak on my behalf.

I have lived on Blatchington Road for some time now. When we moved here I was well aware that the club was situated at the end of the road, and we expected noise and minor disruption. Recently however, I have noticed a rapid decline in control and severe increase in anti-social behaviour and alarmingly, violence and hurt which I have witnessed in the early hours of the morning.

I have had my car wipers torn off twice, which cost me 100 pounds a time. It made me extremely annoyed to feel my bank balance innocently decreasing whilst I was doing nothing to cause it's happening. I dread to think of the amount the residents have spent collectively on repairing their cars after a weekend. It would be in the thousands I am sure.

Another problem would be the urinating in my doorway. When I wake up in the morning and can see urine sprayed up my wall and puddles as I walk out with my child. Nobody wants to see their home being used as a toilet. The same with vomit. It feels extremely degrading and quite frankly, repulsive, clearing the debris of somebody else's stomach first thing of a Sunday morning. The drug packets left behind too, which my child has picked up. Thankfully, empty, but unsafe all the same. It feels wrong and tainted to see your child intrigued by small bags which are lined with white powder.

And we have the banging on the windows. If your light is on, you are guaranteed that somebody will slam their fists against them, repeatedly. This is a weekly occurrence and when you are trying to wind down, watch a film, it can be startling. Even more so for my child who is extremely frightened by the banging, disrupting their sleep. They wake up confused and scared and often very apprehensive to fall back asleep.

I would like to express how deeply sad it makes me for my child that they have to experience this twice a week, on a weekly basis. As adults, we are able to understand why it is happening. We can feel angry, annoyed, tired but we know that that at some point in the night, when everybody is home, it will stop. Children, especially toddlers and babies, cannot reason. When they are woken by the banging, by people stood right outside of our door, which directly connects to the street, shouting and screaming, chanting and yelling, "You're a fucking cunt!" and "Yes, I fucked her", to name a couple that are used on a regular basis. The profanities make my stomach turn and my heart sink to hear my child awake to foul language like this. How do you explain what is happening? How do you make them understand that is not how you act when it has become engrained in their life every weekend? It is their norm. Except it is not the norm, and it is not acceptable and it is most certainly not fair. They are the ones most influenced by the behaviour, because children accept what they are given. On a bad night, their sleep is disrupted, they struggle to fall back to sleep, especially amidst the more frequent fights and turmoil and the cries, that have been taking place directly outside of our house of recent. The next day they are tired, everyone is tired and it is deeply affecting our quality of life.

Every month, there is an incident on our street. The fights are becoming extremely frequent and vicious. I would have to say the most menacing one was when I saw a young man, cold and unconscious strewn across the middle of the road, with around 40 people loitering the street in the early hours of the morning. Its like a wild, heated frenzy and sometimes I cannot fathom how this happens here. This is a quiet, happy street, the neighbours are all friendly. Yet it can transform into this dark, violent, uncontrolled area and the atmosphere is frightening. I am frightened as a resident when I see people mauling each other up the hill, when I hear heads smashing onto kerbs and pavements, when I hear children terrified like they are in some kind of nightmare, but honestly, my biggest fear, is that somebody will end up very tragically hurt. I can see it before my eyes, it will happen if intervention is not made in some, way shape or form, and I truly hope it doesn't. Cars can be repaired, glass can be swept but a person severely hurt or even critically ill is sadly, not always that easy to mend.

Since The Trek has closed weekend life has been incredibly peaceful. The first night it felt so...strange. I was quite shocked at how on edge I had become, awaiting the disruption that comes with the opening of the club. It has become a weekend ritual to check the porch and car for debris and damage. It felt very liberating to not have to be edgy about that and actually, this is how life SHOULD be. Not an influx of repercussions from the club. I shouldn't be made to feel, "well you moved here, what do you expect?". Well, I expect that everybody on this street wants to live in peace and harmony and that is what the temporary closure of The Trek has graced us with. I support its full closure. It has been like a breath of fresh air. I am thankful for uninterrupted sleep for the whole household, that I do not have to witness extreme violence, brawls and injury, that my home is not penetrated with hideous screams and abusive language. I believe wholeheartedly that this street is a safer and the welfare of many people should it remain closed.

BELL, Steve

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 September 2016 22:12
To: Denham Vokins; <Jean.Irving@sussex.pnn.police.uk>; BELL, Steve
Subject: Sep 11th Blatchington road
Attachments: Sep 11th 1.49AM blatchington road.mp3; Sep 11th 1.52AM blatchington road.mp3

Hi Denham and Jean.

last weekend just gone there were 3 fights all at once outside the Trek.
A neighbour, [REDACTED] away from the trek recorded the audio from her bedroom window once it woke her up. please note her windows were fully closed (as always for all of us over weekends) but its a good example of (even with closed windows), the sound of what life is often like for us..It's just like the audio of the brawl a few weeks before that i sent you. It's quite disturbing .

I don't know if this is any help but I have attached the 2 audio files for you, with the times in the title.

Thanks

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 September 2016 23:04
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: more audio
Attachments: 28 Aug. 1.26am.mp3; 21st august 0.44am.mp3; 21st august 00.48am.mp3

Hi Steve

I know you must have a large collate job on your hands but i'll send these just in case you want to use them.

This is my [REDACTED] from number [REDACTED] blatchington road. [REDACTED] recorded times [REDACTED] was woken up just by customers being noisy outside her window (which is closed). It's not evidence of fighting but its her being woken up. Dates and times are in the title. this is before closing time when customers are on the way in.

The audio from the fight sep 11th is on the other email. Also please let me know if the audio i sent in august from the other fight that happened just after our meeting is ok and you have it (the one where you actually hear children waking up).

Thanks so much for listening to us, it has really made me realise how other councillors talk the talk but in reality, are paying lip service...

Thank you

I should like to give you a bit of history relating to the rowdy behaviour of youngsters arriving and leaving the Trek on Friday and Saturday nights. Some ten to twelve years ago my late husband kept a diary to which all residents in Blatchington Road and of course ourselves contributed. We attended two meetings with the police who promised the earth and did nothing. We had a visit from a police inspector who categorically stated that at the first sign of any drugs on the Trek premises the club would be closed down. Again nothing was done. We and now myself have had to live with the continued vocal abuse from the youngsters which means that the behaviour of others is affecting how we live our lives. Every Friday and Saturday nights people move their cars from the surrounding area of the Trek because windscreens have been smashed wing mirrors ripped off and lads actually jumping on the cars. As soon as the pubs close the youngsters make their drunken way down Broad Street North and Blatchington Road only to consume more booze resulting in more anti social behaviour which lasts until often two or three in the morning. I cannot even open my windows on those nights! Last Saturday night (11th September) the noise was the worst I have heard for several weeks and lasted until well after two in the morning. The woman who owns the club merely says that it is not her responsibility as the lewd behaviour is not on her property. My point is that if the club were not there these problems would not arise. Several weeks ago the police were called to an incident along Blatchington Road where a lad lay prostate on the ground whilst his mates danced around him in a drunken frenzy. They could not even stand up straight. Eventually the ambulance was called and I presume he was taken to hospital. My feelings are that our emergency services who are already stretched to the limit should not have to attend situations brought about by irresponsible people who drink too much. Their duty is to attend people who are in dire need of medical attention.

Every Friday and Saturday night over many years is tinged with the thought of what is going to happen tonight. I should not have to live under that sort of worry and neither should any of my neighbours. There have been many disturbances over the years some more serious than others and some requiring police attention. Added to that is the disgusting behaviour of the youngsters concerned such as urinating in the doorways together with sexual activity and I have seen that with my own eyes over the years. My bedroom is on the [REDACTED] of my house overlooking Blatchington Road. I think one of the more disturbing aspects is the drunken behaviour of those on their way to the Trek and the fact that those people are allowed into the club and leave in a worse state. Their language becomes even more foul and the screaming and shouting that goes on into the early hours of the morning should not be allowed. There are young children in Blatchington Road who should not be subjected to such a volley of swear words. On a Friday and Saturday night it is a nightmare to live here and I fervently hope that something can be done to eradicate this antisocial behaviour. I have tried my best to put into words the genuine concern I have for the future. It will be only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or killed if the present situation is allowed to continue.

[REDACTED]

Broad Street

Ongoing concerns regarding The Trek.

I will try to summarize afresh from previous communications with MPs and repeated attendances at Neighbourhood Watch meetings.

I bought my house almost three years ago and was specifically advised by the estate agent to think carefully because of 'The Trek'. I failed at the time to comprehend why buying a small flat in the Chyngton area would be preferable. After years of living in London and Brighton I had responded to the advice of a [REDACTED] who recommended Seaford as a town to move to. I fell in love with Seaford and assured my estate agent (who was actually selling the house) that all would be well.

I struggle with that decision as I am now involved in various community organisations. I feel empowered by the very recent involvement of the Police and the support of neighbours.

For the last 3 years most Friday and Saturday nights are disrupted to the point that I feel scared and unable to sleep after the event. I find myself preparing where to sleep including the bathroom and my now adult children have confided that they feel unable to spend any time to visit me overnight at the weekend, as teachers and nurses they cannot risk the expected lack of sleep and upset at the time.

I am now staying with my elderly mother in [REDACTED] when I have an early shift as a [REDACTED] on a Saturday or Sunday. This is not what she or I envisaged.

I have lived in London (including Brixton and Camberwell) and Brighton over the last 30 years and am accustomed to general noise generated from pubs and similar places. I am also accepting of the need for people to unwind after work.

If this club was in Brighton it would have been closed down.

I strongly doubt the commitment of the owners of The Trek as to the responsibilities of their impact on the community of Seaford - preferring to blame local pubs. The pubs no doubt fuel the problem but would seem to be far more professionally managed.

The impact of alcohol is clearly involved and I have witnessed countless uses of cocaine opposite my house - less so now other recreational drugs are more in favour. This is something I actively work with my co- colleagues at Pavilions - the substance misuse service for Brighton and Hove, so am fully aware of current concerns.

The level of violence is becoming more extreme (though it struck me as hideous when on my very first night a police officer had to threaten a man behaving violently with a Tazar opposite my house). It clearly is only a matter of time before someone is killed. I do not want to hear one more thud of a skull hitting the tarmac and then worrying whether he will stand up.

I would find it unbearable as a mother and resident to have to listen to accounts from door security/ club owners as to why it was the fault of the police (who have increasingly limited funding) or why security can't step beyond the gates (sometimes they have when it's awful and they are being brave) - to be told my son or daughter had died outside The Trek.

With kind regards,

[REDACTED] blatchington road

the street with drinks and glasses from wherever they are coming from. These are left in the road, window sills and porches to be smashed or used as weapons upon their return.

I have only lived in the area for nine months, but recently, the issues surrounding the Trek appear to be magnifying. In my opinion, due to the hours of operation, 22:45 – 02:00, they are an outlet that is simply providing an opportunity for clientele to further binge drink, there to fuel a clientele already under the extreme influence of alcohol. They are selling alcohol to drunk people. The Trek has, in my opinion, no regard to the licencing objectives. Namely:

1. The prevention of crime and disorder
2. Public safety
3. The prevention of public nuisance

Why now?

Saturday 10th September for me was the final straw. Having moved my car from Blatchington Road to Broad Street to try and save it from further damage (abuse), I was awoken to a crescendo of noise. This noise had been going on for a fair while and it took me a while to awake fully and realise it was from outside. I could hear grown men shouting "come on then you c**t, come on then". I went to the window to see adults running up Broad Street fighting, not hand bags at twenty paces fighting, grown adults launching themselves at each other, bodies pinned against cars. The language was appalling, the shouting and screaming just went on.

I went to get my phone to call the police and to try and film what was escalating before me. At that moment a police van arrived on blues and pulled up at the end of Blatchington Road, Trek end. Shortly after, a mini cab mounted the pavement to get around said police van to collect a fare.

19th August – more fighting, the huge brawl was recorded by multiple neighbours to prove to the police how frightening the event was. another huge brawl that was waking us all up yet again.

July – more huge brawls, weapons, police, with many neighbours awake until 4am

Enough is enough.

I trust you agree.

Living near the Trek Club

We moved to Blatchington Road almost 10 years ago. We wanted to live very near the town, as I don't drive, and wanted to be able to walk to all amenities. We knew of the club before we bought the house so would expect some noise from the club.

We do have a lot of trouble and anti social behaviour :

- Damage to our car – back window smashed, side mirrors broken (all reported to the police). Even footprints over the whole car. These events all took place on Friday and Saturday nights (a few years ago). We now try to park our car away from the area over the weekend.
- Bottles and glasses left on the street
- Swearing and fighting (even sexual activities over the cars and on the green opposite)
- Ringing of doorbell. We now remove bell every weekend night.
- Banging on Windows.
- We close our windows and vents before midnight over the weekend. Sadly we can still hear the noise and are woken up, particularly when they fight.

In order to help with the noise, we had new windows put in the front. Double glazed with extra sound proofing, and toughened glass to stop breakage. We did have meetings a few years ago, anti social team at council, and met with the police. Promises were made to look into this but sadly, probably, due to cost nothing altered.

Since the pubs have been open until midnight the 'clubbers' arrive later. Usually just after midnight and continues until 1 am. They have already had many drinks so on the walk along Blatchington road, sing as groups, shout, swear and argue. (Something I'm sure they wouldn't do outside their own houses). It clearly states in the Trek website that last admittance is 12.30pm but we definitely state that they are arriving up until 1am. Then they all leave 2am or before. Again, we have witnessed really aggressive behaviour. Group fighting, swearing and its quite frightening to witness. We live half way down the road where we have good lighting to see the events. We have seen the bouncers, outside our house, try to break up these fights. We have seen cars driven away erratically, just after 2am, from outside our house. We have seen car accidents, police involved so there must be records.

Sadly, we have no evidence of these events over the years but feel they have got worse over the last 2/3 years and worry about the consequences and outcome for the youngsters involved in the fighting and heavy drinking. there have been many fights in the street, Trek door staff trying to stop them but no police called. We always find broken glasses, and bottles everywhere. Over the years we have had car windows broken and mirrors snapped off (these were reported).

It's very difficult sleeping with all windows closed during the summer. The fights are very frightening to hear, even worse to witness, and we are extremely worried that the lack of control will result in youngsters being hurt, or even worse! They appear quite drunk before even entering the club and feel the extra drink at the club just puts them over the top.

We now have many more residents in the area, more flats have been built. We even have a new 'older people' establishment being currently built by Tesco and I can assure you the behaviour will affect the residents.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Blatchington Road
Seaford Bn25 [REDACTED]

September 2016

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 August 2016 09:12
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: The Trek.

Morning Steve.

I hope you are well.

Once all the customers had left the street around 220pm last night I found the club itself to be very noisy. We had our bedroom window open as its humid to present. Even though no music was played there seemed to be lots of every loud discussions taking place, shouting and laughing until around 3am. I'm guessing it must have been staff having a social before going home.

Many thanks, any news your end feel free to pass our way.

Sent from my iPad

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 September 2016 07:59
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: The Trek..

Morning Steve.

Jean Irving asked me to make sure you had the below forwarded email where [REDACTED] gives a bit more clarity over what took place.
 Many thanks

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

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 11 Sep 2016 11:11
Subject: Re: Fw: The Trek
To: [REDACTED]
Cc:

Hi [REDACTED],

Yes but a bit earlier, around 1.30. The police CCTV van was there quite quickly which stopped things though they did see some of it as about 12 guys ran away once they saw the police, a police car did go off to look for them.

The bulk of the fighting was directly outside the Trek with other fights spilling over at the beginning of the slope. Horrible. I heard at least two heads hit the ground hard but they both got up.
 I've swapped with a colleague to work as am too knackered....

On Sunday, 11 September 2016, 7:16, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi [REDACTED] Was this last night ??? At closing time ?

On 11 Sep 2016 02:44, [REDACTED] wrote:
 Please can you share with our neighbours [REDACTED]?

On Sunday, 11 September 2016, 2:30, [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Steve,

I am writing this shortly after having to call 999 and having to plead with them to send police as quickly as possible. The operator commented on the noise when I rang and said it sounded awful.

You will be very aware of the ongoing disturbance to our road.

I am still shaking and tearful as I honestly thought someone would be seriously hurt or killed. A police van and car did arrive which had the effect of sending those fighting in different directions. When I called there were approximately 3 different fights each involving numbers of people that was escalating as more men joined in. I would approximate that there were around 60 people outside, possibly more.

I actually left my house to inform the police that as their van arrived at least 12 men had run from the area shouting to get away.

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 September 2016 02:31
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: The Trek

Dear Steve,

I am writing this shortly after having to call 999 and having to plead with them to send police as quickly as possible. The operator commented on the noise when I rang and said it sounded awful.

You will be very aware of the ongoing disturbance to our road.

I am still shaking and tearful as I honestly thought someone would be seriously hurt or killed. A police van and car did arrive which had the effect of sending those fighting in different directions. When I called there were approximately 3 different fights each involving numbers of people that was escalating as more men joined in. I would approximate that there were around 60 people outside, possibly more.

I actually left my house to inform the police that as their van arrived at least 12 men had run from the area shouting to get away.

This is one more hideous night that means I have to get through my shift as a [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED] tomorrow having had very little sleep.

Yours,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 August 2016 10:33
To: Jean Irving; Denham Vokins; BELL, Steve
Cc: <Stuart.mullins@sussex.pnn.police.uk>; [REDACTED]
Subject: The Trek
Attachments: the trek 20th august 2016 audio.mp3.zip

Good morning Jean and Steve.

[REDACTED] and I, and many neighbours were woken as soon as the trek closed its doors last night.

Attached is a video taken from last night. Please be aware the trouble was approx [REDACTED] metres from our front door and a huge tree is in between broad street and blatchington road so the footage value is in the audio, not visual. This was recorded [REDACTED]

This is not a recording of people leaving the club happy and enjoying themselves, contrary to that this is a recording of people literally threatening to kill each other and more.

You will hear me call 999 in the video for the second time when it escalated more so you will hear how it correlates with your police reports if you listen to the calls you have on your system. You will also hear our neighbours child wake up screaming from the event terrified that her mum was amidst the menacing brawl she could hear. You will also hear cars being attacked and death threats being made as well as foul language and extreme antisocial behaviour. We stopped filming once the police arrived and then were up to 4am trying to, yet again, get our [REDACTED] son back to sleep.

This recording clearly shows you the crux of the problem we have to deal with as residents. The whole time this vulgar scene unfolded the Trek staff stood at the gates of the club doing nothing at all. By the time the police arrived, I overheard the one officer simply instructing people to "go home". No arrests were made. It's incredible that no one was seriously hurt..or were they?

Can I please stress that names of neighbours are mentioned in the video, so if this evidence was presented to owners of the Trek we request that names are censored before

 The trek 20th august 2016.mp4 

to protect the residents of this road

This incident is not an anomaly, it is normality. Having being woken up and witnessing the string of offences as mentioned above, first phoning 999 and as the violence escalated phoning 999 again the police finally arrived but sadly yet again witnessed nothing and the perpetrators were simply told "go home". This is what I meant by stating there is a culture of no consequence on blatchington road, I hope you can further understand after listening to the attached evidence exactly the repercussions of this establishment, and how residents quality of life is being deeply affected. The fact that our children have to regularly be woken up to hear this type of behaviour deeply upsets me.

The video file is rather large so it's attached as a google drive link, so I have also attached the audio of the incident as an MP3 for simple access.
 I look forward to hearing from you.

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 August 2016 20:23
To: [REDACTED] Jean Irving; Denham Vokins; BELL, Steve
Cc: <Stuart.mullins@sussex.pnn.police.uk> [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: The Trek

Dear all,

Thank you [REDACTED] for forwarding this clip.

It was appalling and very frightening. Before the police arrived I could see two men taking off their shirts to join in the fight. I don't have a mobile that can record footage unfortunately and as a single woman feel nervous about doing this anyway. When the police arrived I could see that the main people involved dispersed very quickly but could hear them saying clearly how "they got some good punches in". I called from from my window to the officers to say this. I also observed one of the men urinating against the bushes and telling the two police officers to look the other way - one replied "It's ok we're not looking". I felt they were just glad to be leaving the area.

On Saturday, 20 August 2016, 10:33, [REDACTED]

Good morning Jean and Steve.

[REDACTED] and I, and many neighbours were woken as soon as the trek closed its doors last night.

Attached is a video taken from last night. Please be aware the trouble was appx [REDACTED] from our front door and a huge tree is in between broad street and blatchington road so the footage value is in the audio, not visual. This was recorded [REDACTED]

This is not a recording of people leaving the club happy and enjoying themselves, contrary to that this is a recording of people literally threatening to kill each other and more.

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This recording clearly shows you the crux of the problem we have to deal with as residents. The whole time this vulgar scene unfolded the Trek staff stood at the gates of the club doing nothing at all. By the time the police arrived, I overheard the one officer simply instructing people to "go home". No arrests were made. It's incredible that no one was seriously hurt..or were they?

Can I please stress that names of neighbours are mentioned in the video, so if this evidence was presented to owners of the Trek we request that names are censored before

 The trek 20th august 2016.mp4

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 August 2016 11:43
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: The Trek. Sunday 28th August

Hi Steve.

Further update.

Appx 130am this morning [REDACTED] and I were woke up with screaming and shouting outside. A man who sounded drunk was shouting threats whilst some females were screaming for him to stop. I did call the police, unsure if anything came of it as we went back to bed.

Once the club was shut this morning, until appx 3am the staff were noisy at the trek again. My guess is that the staff have a wind down outside once shift ends, the hang out outside which is very noisy when they shout and laugh. This seems to be a new thing, maybe it's where it's been hot they'd rather be outside.

Thanks

On 24 Aug 2016 08:37, "BELL, Steve" <steve.bell@parliament.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for all this information and I would also advise that you do not deliver to Broad Street, this is something which we will do. I am sorry that you and your family find yourselves in this situation, [REDACTED]

Best wishes

Steve Bell CBE

Office of Maria Caulfield MP

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

0207 219 5946

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 August 2016 13:43
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: RE: The Trek

Hi Steve.

Thank you.

The second night I had a small incident . A couple were having a heated discussion drunk slumped against my front door, a discussion about entering the trek. I very politely asked them to leave my property as it would wake up our [REDACTED] old son.

The gentleman was understanding and polite however the female said to me "I don't give a fuck I have a two year old " and then left and thumped on our living room Windows. I reported this antisocial behaviour to the police (ref 0029 [REDACTED]). This was Sunday 21st just after midnight.

Steve, Broad street is the street that the Friday brawl was on. Cars were also damaged. Could you kindly create a letter to go to residents of broad street to forward any concerns and diaries to yourself?. They are totally unaware of our current process and I am certain they would like to be part of it. I feel that if I approach them I am putting myself at risk from the owners as they live in view of the street.

Many thanks

On 22 Aug 2016 09:28, "BELL, Steve" <steve.bell@parliament.uk> wrote:

[REDACTED]

Thank you for sending this over. I have noted your comments in regards to names etc.

Best wishes

Steve Bell CBE

Office of Maria Caulfield MP

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

0207 219 5946

██████ – blatchington road

To whom it may concern.

Having lived in central Brighton and other city centres for years before moving to Seaford I was used to being very near bars and clubs. Closing time was largely happy revellers making their way home, noisy yes but it was not frightening and I recall little violence and not once did I complain about groups of people laughing, being joyful and unwinding –

Once me and my family moved to seaford, we were worried about music from the club being a problem, but it did not take long to realise the problem was far beyond music. when we arrived I quickly learned that several long standing neighbours had spent nearly two thousand pounds each on their homes installing a second set of windows, I quickly discovered why.

The violence that occurs outside of the club as it closes that then spills out on broad street / blatchington road over the last 3 years is shocking. It's frightening to hear through our windows (we have to shut all windows over the weekends to try and mitigate our children hearing) loud drunken threats , arguments, screaming , and a lot of the time disorder and violence.

What is of deep concern is it seems since December 2015 there has been a surge in violence and disorder as a resident I feel deeply concerned, tired, fed up and scared of what is next to come. I am tired of our children and neighbours children being woken up regularly by large 'street brawls'. The level of violence taking place is frightening to hear and if action is not taken, one day , soon, someone is going to end up dead outside of our houses or critically injured. I do not want my children to hear this happen and I am sure every other family on our road feels the same.

It's no wonder there is a culture of heavy drinking and violence as people act and commit crimes dependant on the environment they are in- and this is dimly lit, quiet, tucked away, off the radar family road.

Having the club open at weekends until 2am also brings us residents the following problems.

- urinating in our door ways most weekends / vomit in our door ways
- broken bottles in a door ways / empty drug bags with white powder residue inside in our doorways.
- people arguing in our door ways / people sat in our doorways / car vandalised 3 times / most residents cars vandalised leaving us all out of pocket regularly
- the pub glasses and empties left in our doorways prior to entering the club to drink more.
- as crowds of loud drunk people pass out house to enter the trek they regularly thump on our windows for 'fun' – not very fun for us and out children – far from fun, its frightening and frustrating.

Back to the violence. I am deeply worried about the safety of the people leaving the club - I said in 2014 to various officials (please see my email evidence) that I was genuinely scared

that someone will either get killed or critically injured out there on a club night. I still feel the same – in fact the violence is becoming more regular and more extreme. I now feel anxious post midnight every weekend as I expect violence.

Speaking to many long standing locals about the trek, many have complained to council officials a decade ago about the violence and antisocial behaviour. Sadly nothing changed and many residents gave up calling it in. They felt like nothing could change and gave up. Many feel worried to complain as the owners live behind our road. I myself complained to officials years ago, nothing was done and here we are in 2016 with many residents so fed up with the violence they have resorted to recording the disorder to PROVE to officials how terrifying these events are and how they are affecting children, parents and the elderly. For the rest of seaford the weekends are to wind down, for us, it's a time where we lose sleep and feel anxious and scared about what level of violence comes next. I feel like protecting our children somehow by not hearing the chaos and violence but even with our windows tightly closed all summer – they still hear it, and it just gets worse.

years after this club has opened new laws have come into existence which supposedly protect the children and public from disorder and antisocial behaviour, given the amount of times officials have been alerted to the problems I am shocked and upset that we are living like this. Sadly the long forgotten 'alcohol free zone' signs on this road do nothing, contrary to that this street 'is' the road TO drink on, on your way into the trek.

Living here for years I have heard many rumours that staff at the trek prefer not to call the police when there is violence and disorder. I heard rumours of victims being too scared to name the club in fear of being barred (from the only club between Brighton and Eastbourne) A neighbour witnessed the treks non-compliance with the police first hand when a customers car crashed into a wall when leaving the trek. The driver was drunk and the doorman did not want to call the police, my neighbour had to. This context makes me feel even more worried for the future if staff at the premises cannot even safeguard their own paying clients when subjected to violence or other risks, it puts them at a huge risk of harm and it's then left to us residents to call the police. Ironically, when the police do arrive after a resident calls for them the club are quick to blame the police for not preventing the disorder that is generated from the club. Outside of the club is not safe, broad street is not safe and blatchington road is not safe. I cannot speak for the disorder that probably spills out into other parts of seaford but the police will be very aware of the further violence and crime that takes place.

I have lost count of the violence that has taken place outside of our homes since I lived here, but below are the most recent five incidents of violence since December that have woken us and other residents up – these will correlate with police reports.

Sep 10th/11th – sometime after 130am I was woken as I heard screams and disorder through my baby monitor that is transmitting from our youngest child's room, I heard people screaming, males and females. I heard a neighbour scream from a near window to stop. It sounded like a large fight like many of the others we are woken by. Miraculously our children due to being exhausted from a very late night the day before were not woken but the noise sounded terrifying. The next day multiple neighbours also tell me they were woken, one neighbour informs me it was 3 fights at once outside of the trek and she was frightened and needed to beg for the police to come to help. I later learned another woken neighbour recorded the audio as proof

of the large scale disorder outside of our homes. Police arrived and as always, perpetrators ran off into the night.

28th August.2016. woken up at 1.30am with screams from females who sounded terrified whilst a male screamed threats at violence at others. I felt scared someone was going to be seriously hurt as a fight unfolded, I called the police.

19th/20th August 2016 – complete disorder on broad street, a huge brawl unfolds 20 metres from the trek door, the trek staff stand and watch as many threaten to kill each other and many females scream in fear for it to stop., neighbours child woke up scared, then our children woke up crying.– video evidence sent to the police to prove the disorder. Police were called. Offenders with tops off were told to go home, many just remained and sat in our neighbours doorway. A very frightening evening/morning.

Weekend in July. Most neighbours and children woken up by a huge brawl. Police are called, abandoned car found, reports of baseball bats being used and violence. Many residents awake until 4am frightened and tired and fed up of the fighting. Police were called.

19th December 2015 – most residents woken up once club was emptying. A young man out cold outside of our houses with screaming and chaos and threats of violence all around. Children were woken up and police were called. This was frightening and I was worried that the young man was killed. His friends were shouting very violently and many ran off in different directions. I gave all of this information to SGT Mullins Lewes police.

Below is records of my correspondence with the police and officials since 2014 should it be required as evidence.

10/11th September – video evidence sent to police to prove the disorder – screams and disturbance coming through the baby monitor and then I heard a neighbour shouting for it to stop – miraculously my son slept through it and I waited for it to simmer down.

Speaking to 3 neighbours the next day the police were called out to allegedly 3 fights outside of the trek at the same time and the police were called and it woke up several different houses yet again.

28th August.2016. screams and fighting outside the trek, the police called..Reported it to the police and local councillor.

Hi Steve.

Further update.

Appx 130am this morning [REDACTED] were woke up with screaming and shouting outside. A man who sounded drunk was shouting threats whilst some females were screaming for him to stop. I did call the police, unsure if anything came of it as we went back to bed.

Once the club was shut this morning, until appx 3am the staff were noisy at the trek again. My guess is that the staff have a wind down outside once shift ends, the hang out outside which is very noisy when they shout and laugh. This seems to be a new thing, maybe it's where it's been hot they'd rather be outside.

Thanks

21st August. Called police due to trek customer arguing in my doorway, then thumped on my living room windows when she left. Reported to police and local councillor

ent: 23 August 2016 13:43
To: BELL, Steve <steve.bell@parliament.uk>
Subject: RE: The Trek

Hi Steve.

Thank you.

The second night I had a small incident . A couple were having a heated discussion drunk slumped against my front door, a discussion about entering the trek. I very politely asked them to leave my property as it would wake up our [REDACTED] old son.

The gentleman was understanding and polite however the female said to me "I don't give a fuck I have a [REDACTED] old " and then left and thumped on our living room Windows. I reported this antisocial behaviour to the police (ref [REDACTED]). This was Sunday 21st just after midnight.

Steve, Broad street is the street that the Friday brawl was on. Cars were also damaged. Could you kindly create a letter to go to residents of broad street to forward any concerns and diaries to yourself?. They are totally unaware of our current process and I am certain they would like to be part of it. I feel that if I approach them I am putting myself at risk from the owners as they live in view of the street.

Many thanks

19th/20th August 2016 – Huge brawl on broad street , completely frightening, neighbours child woke up scared, then out children woke up crying.– video evidence sent to the police to prove the disorder.

2nd march 2016 – email to sgt mullins to state our front door still gets urinated on regularly and that there was a disturbance and fight outside where a young man was headbutted.

Hi Stuart, I hope you are well.

Sorry to be a pest , just wondering if there was any news on the camera for our road? Nothings changed our end, our front door is still regularly urinated on and the usual antisocial behaviour outside. A young lad was head butted outside the house Saturday night but they all ran off very quickly.

3rd January 2016– Email to [REDACTED] regarding licence pack as I was begging to become very tired of the antisocial behaviour.

Morning [REDACTED]

I hope you are well, happy new year.

A while back you wrote " If you would like me to send you a pack giving further information on how to submit a review of the premises please let me know." - could you please send me this pack? I'm intrigued about how this process works.

In addition to the same old weekend catalogue of problems here It seems the new trend of banging loudly on residents living room windows prior to entering the Trek around midnight is becoming more popular.

Many thanks

19th December 2015 – Email to SGT mullins and Ed from the council regarding huge brawl that took place the night before.
Morning Ed & Stuart.

I'm sure you already have some information but I wanted to put forward what took place last night outside of our house.

At appx 2am we were all woken up by what sounded like huge crowd of very distressed people, lots of screaming and shouting and cries for help.

I went downstairs and outside of our door about 5 metres away I could see that a man appeared to be 'out cold' on the floor and people were screaming and shouting. I called the police immediately at 2.10am and was told that police were already called. At

this point my neighbour also came out of the house as they were also calling for police assistance, the scene was quite distressing and there was 1 doorman of the Trek out there who seemed absolutely powerless to control what was happening.

The police and ambulance arrived around 20 mins after we called. Up until they arrived, there were large groups of men very angry and shouting who seemed to sprint off towards the high street. Whilst all this was going on allegedly someone was having a fit outside of the Trek. It seemed the men would run back down to outside of our house, i think checking on their friend on the floor. And then the drama would pick up again and they would sprint off back up to the town in anger shouting.

I do hope that the young man was ok on the floor? One of his friends told me that he was beaten up outside of our house by a large group of around 8 or 10 men, this is quite disturbing and the young man could have ended up dead, was on the floor for a very long time.

We found the whole incident very upsetting, the noise was very alarming and as you can imagine it took us a long time to get our children back to sleep last night. I think we managed to get to sleep around 4am but until then my [REDACTED] was upset and very confused about what she was hearing.

Is there any news on the camera? I feel that if it was installed, a) it could provide evidence of the group that did this to the young man. also b) . it took 20 mins for any police or ambulance to arrive during this time more chaos unfolded - this yet again highlights what I have always been saying, we are woken up every single weekend with drunken violent aggressive behaviour outside of our window when this club closes yet nothing at all seems to change.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sgt mullins replied confirming there were actually 2 assaults - see below.

12/21/15

to me

Sorry to hear about the events on Friday Night / Saturday morning. It's all a bit confusing our end as there were two reported incidents at the same time, one of which was where a man was arrested and a second where another was assaulted, neither of which were thought to have resulted in unconscious. This all coincided with another person having a fit which may explain the unconscious reports. I'm still trying to get to the bottom of it all.

More importantly the hold up with the camera is down to Highway's giving us the go ahead to use a replacement lamppost to the one we wanted to use. They are stalling on this so we have chased them up yet again. I'll let you know as soon as I get an update.

regards

Stuart Mullins
Police Sergeant

Seaford, Neighbourhood Policing Team

3rd November 2015 Tel: 101 Ext. 561230

1st November 2015. Alcohol glasses smashed all over pavements and road of blatchington road. Kids unable to leave our front door due to shards. Email to Ed here regarding this:

Hi Ed.

My wife and I spent 30 mins sweeping up glass today. There were broken glasses scattered all up blatchington road. If cars were to drive down tyres would have been punctured. The noise and behaviour outside last night yet again woke the children around 2am. Then numerous glasses were smashed all over the roads and in residents hallways.

Any news on the possible CCTV or some type of control in this so called no alcohol zone ?

27th June 2015 – email to maria caufield about trek customers banging on our windows prior to entering the club around midnite.

Sent: 27 June 2015 06:57
To: CAULFIELD, Maria
Subject: Bluetree Contact Form

Name: xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Email: xxxxxxxxxx@gmail.com

Address 1: blatchington road

Address 2: seaford
 Town: Town:
 County: County:
 Postcode: bn25
 Telephone: Telephone:

Message: Hi Marie,

In addition to my last email, I'd also like to add (with regards to public nuisance) is trek revelers leaving the club and then banging on the windows of our houses. This happened at 2am last night, and has happened plenty of times before. It woke us all up, yet again.

With Cctv not being present on this street people just continue to feel they can do all these things with no reprisals, and they are right, there are never any reprisals. Cctv and some sort of controls on this road are needed as this is getting rather tedious and expensive.

EMAIL TO MARIA CAULFIELD 24/06/2015

—Original Message—

From:
 Sent: 24 June 2015 22:35
 To: CAULFIELD, Maria
 Subject: Bluetree Contact Form

Name: xxxxxxxx
 Email: xxxxxxxxx@gmail.com

Address 1: xx blatchington road
 Address 2: seaford
 Town: Town:
 County: east sussex
 Postcode: bn25
 Telephone: Telephone:

Message: Dear Marie,

Sadly I was unable to attend the residents meeting in Blatchington Road recently, however, I understand a fellow resident of Blatchington road voiced some concerns to you about the Trek night club.

I also would like to raise with you concerns about the Trek.

1) Around 1 year ago I contacted Stuart Mullins (Police Sergeant) with regards to the constant, every weekend Antisocial Behaviour (and criminal damage) that takes place outside of the club on our road. He responded by informing me that 'Operation Marble' is a patrol that was created to curb problems from the Trek, however, due to staffing it's not possible to always do this patrol. Stuart also stated "The club cannot be held responsible for rowdy behaviour by those on the way there but can be accountable for problems caused by persons leaving the club."

so, if this is the case, why are all the problems still happening until 4am after the trek is closed?? Clearly the trek isn't being held accountable for problems caused by persons leaving the club. I think the answer is obvious, the area is not policed. The trek staff close their doors after taking their money at 2am, then it's us residents that have our weekends ruined by being subjected to the dreaded aftermath. The Trek club shuts at 2am, however, every weekend there are crowds of (very drunk) people outside of our houses until gone 4am and anti-social behaviour is rife.

The noise is unbearable, there are constant yells from groups threatening each other, arguments, shouting, screaming, chanting and quite often actual violence. The language is vulgar and the noise wakes up my [redacted] every single weekend without fail and it's usually around 4am that I am able to get [redacted] back to sleep. Quite often the screaming loud drunken arguments and fights scare our [redacted] and she is unable to get back to sleep, seeing her shaken and upset by hearing this outside of her window for hours is starting to really take its toll. To add to this, urine in our door way, vomit in our door way, glass bottles left next to our car tyres, drunk people trying to have sex in your door way and all sorts of other behaviour adds to this multi-faceted array of anti-social behaviour.

I have talked to many neighbours since living here, many have given up complaining to the police as the problems always continue and nothing ever gets done, others spent £1,500 on an EXTRA layer of double glazing to block out the dreadful noise of these crowds and the anti-social behaviour. I refuse to take either of these options and I propose that something should finally be done about the problems the customers of the club are causing to our quality of life on this road. The trek seems powerless in moving their customers off of this street at 2am... therefore should this be the police who do this? I feel rather enraged that every household on this street pays council tax, around 9% of what we pay is going to the police, and this road is not being policed, once the trek closes, it is us who are then woken up for hours with anti-social behaviour and pay for criminal damage to be repaired. We also pay our council tax for rubbish collection however the glasses, beer cans, bottles etc are always scattered outside of our front doors every weekend (ironically the signs on this street say 'no alcohol zone but it's evident that the drinking culture on this street is quite contrary to this)

I am aware that the licensing act has four licensing objectives that each premise must uphold. These are The prevention of crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance, public safety and the protection of children from harm.

First off 'The prevention of crime and disorder' and the 'prevention of public nuisance' – this is not being upheld. I have seen large groups of drunk people actual block cars from driving down this street and then bang on the bonnet and windows to intimidate the driver, the lawless mentality is very evident here at weekends and it seems regulars know that they are able to act in certain ways and no get reprisal from the law.

Our car has been vandalised 3 times now in the last year and half. Each time has cost our family £70 to repair the windscreen wipers. The first times this happened we didn't log it with the police as neighbours had already told us that was fruitless as (to our surprise) there is no working CCTV on our street. The 3rd time this happened, I did log it with the police. I was told there was "no line of enquiry" as no evidence and the case was closed (no CCTV). So, is this club really taking "the prevention of crime and disorder" seriously? Why should we wake up on a Sunday morning and be £70 out of pocket because drunk revellers leaving the trek fancy a criminal damage spree? The anti-social behaviour will never cease when the club spills out because no one is ever prosecuted for it as there are no cameras. Therefore those who do vandalise our property after leaving the club in the early hours will carry on doing this whilst we just keep paying to repair it.

So far this has cost us £210 and still no resident has had any result from the police as there are no controls, why is there no working CCTV? The mentality of those who think it is acceptable to do this to our family cars must be changed and without action, the future risk remains unchallenged and we will continue to be more and more out of pocket.

My neighbours to my left, they have also had their car vandalised. My neighbours to my right, they moved in one year after we moved here and they have had their car vandalised 3 times – again, no police action was taken as no CCTV records on our street. Another huge concern with no CCTV is one day the fighting is going to get so out of hand someone will be seriously hurt or even killed on this road. Connor Saunders was sadly killed with 1 punch in Rottingdean... and if anything happens here there is no CCTV to help bring successful prosecutions and safety for residents.

Can you please inform me what action is to be taken? The objectives that each premise must uphold. Are not being upheld and out of all 4, the prevention of crime is completely disregarded when it comes to the people who actually live on this street.

I understand many local professionals from various agencies have fond memories of the Trek and aren't keen to take action over something they feel is sentimental to the area, however, it is us true Blatchington Road residents who are really beginning to feel our quality of lives are being effected.

I do look forward to hearing from you, and may I take this moment to congratulate your party on your success, I believe true action is always taken when it comes to the conservatives.

Sincerely,

xxxxxxxxxx Blatchington Road. Seaford.

21st September 2015 informed sgt mullins of customers on the way to the club physically pounding on our windows and shouting.

20/7/2015 – email to Ed hele council complaining about criminal damage to ours and others cars.

Reply from Ed Hele regarding the problems the Trek causes instructing me to challenge the licence and will send me a 'pack'. Not appropriate given I would be publicly published.

12h June 2015 –

Cars on blatchington road with bent windscreen wipers Sunday morning reported to police.

Appx 1st June 2015

Appx 10 or more glasses smashed to pieces all over blatchintgon road, huge shards of glass around ours and neighbours cars. Could not led children walk on the pavement until we had swept it all up. Reported to Sgt Mullins sussex police.

Friday 3rd April 2015:

around midnight, groups of people screaming and shouting outside. Threats of violence being made to another group, very loud aggressive threats being made.

Saturday 5th April 2015:

found car to be vandalised for the 2nd time, back windscreen wipers ripped off. Will cost £100 to repair again.

Email to SGT Mullins sussex police 30th July 2014

to Stuart.mullins

Hi Stuart, I hope you are well.

I am writing again with regards to the Trek nightclub.

As I have expressed before, the Trek club shuts at 2am, however, every weekend there are crowds of (very drunk) people outside of our houses until gone 4am. The noise is unbearable, there are constant yells of abuse, arguments, shouting, screaming and chanting. The language is vulgar and the noise wakes up my [REDACTED] every single weekend without fail and its usually around 4am that I am able to get her back to sleep. Quite often the screaming loud drunken arguments scare our daughter and she is unable to get back to sleep, seeing her shaken and upset by hearing this outside of her window for hours is starting to *really* take its toll. In your previous reply to me, you stated "The club cannot be held responsible for rowdy behaviour by those on the way there but can be accountable for problems caused by persons leaving the club."

If this is the case, the trek closes its doors at 2am, leaving their clientele screaming like hooligans and thugs outside of our bedroom windows until 4am... therefore it seems no one is holding the trek accountable for problems caused by persons leaving this club? Who is accountable for this?

Why can't a 'dispersal order' be in place? I do not feel it is fair on residents that once the Trek shuts at 2am, the drunken customers can stay outside of our bedroom windows until 4am keeping us awake as they behave like animals, is that a fair option? How do we, the residents of Blatchington road, go about getting something akin to a dispersal order put into action? Every household on Blatchington road pays council tax, around 9% of this goes to the police however from 2am onward there are no police and we have to deal with this on a weekly basis. Do dispersal orders work on the grounds that this area (Blatchington road) must be vacated once the club is shut? Is this a fair option? or is it deemed acceptable that these crowds can just pitch up outside our houses until they get tired and bored of shouting at each other?

There are 2 new things I would like to bring to your attention.

1) there are signs in this street declaring it as an alcohol 'free' zone, stating that you cannot drink alcohol on this street. If this is the case, why is it that every weekend scattered down blatchington road the usual visual array is plastic glasses from the trek, empty glass bottles (normally Budweiser) empty beer cans and also actual glasses from pubs. I have lost count of the times I have had glasses or glass beer bottles left in my door way (ok, I understand these are people dumping them off before they enter the trek). I really am quite baffled as contrary to the policy stated on these signs, this IS a street to drink on. The crowds that hang out in this street every weekend until the very early hours have settled firmly into this culture and the policy is meaningless. Who is responsible for enforcing this policy?

2) I live amongst wonderful neighbours here, most of us have babies and infants to raise and look after here. On several occasions now I have noticed empty drug bags left on the pavements outside of our houses. I know the trek has a strict drugs policy, it appears the customers abide to this and consume whatever powders they have before entering. I do not find it acceptable when walking with our [REDACTED] on a Sunday morning that [REDACTED] can pick up a small drug bag with white powder grains still in the corner. The litter on this street after the wrath of the trek is a real sight. Us and many other neighbours wake up to urine on our door step/wall, vomit in the street or often on our door steps. The Trek do declare that they clean up this street afterwards, this is the polar opposite of what actually happens. With my own eyes I have seen trek staff cleaning up the front of the club, but leaving the street in the same mess as usual.

I look forward to your views on this email, myself and many other residents have been communicating and we feel that we are ignored and would like to see action taken.

Thank you

Stuart.mullins@sussex.pnn.police.uk

8/6/1
4

to me

Thanks for your E mail. We continue to operate the Marble Public order patrols who deal with a lot of problems outside of the club. I have passed you other concerns onto our local licensing officer and plan to have a meeting with Councillor Lambert within the next couple of weeks, who I believe you have also been in touch with.

regards Stuart

Stuart Mullins
Police Sergeant

Seaford, Neighbourhood Policing Team
Tel: 101 Ext. 561230

Email to Carolyn Lambert regarding the problems with the Trek 30th July 2014 which resulted in Carolyn talking the Trek, the Trek telling her that they were doing all they can and the case was closed.

Dear Councillor,

There are 3 points that I would like to raise with you about the Trek nightclub in Seaford.

1) there are signs in this street saying it is an alcohol 'free' zone, stating that you cannot drink alcohol on this street. If this is the case, why is it that every weekend, scattered down Blatchington Road the usual visual array is plastic glasses from the Trek, empty glass bottles (normally budweiser) empty beer cans and also actual glasses from pubs. I have lost count of the times I have had glasses or glass beer bottles left in my door way (ok, I understand these are people dumping them off before they enter the Trek). So with these signs put up by the council, I really am quite baffled as contrary to this policy, this IS a street to drink on. The crowds that hang out in this street every weekend have settled firmly into this culture and the policy is meaningless.

2) The Trek club shuts at 2am, however, every weekend there are crowds of (very drunk) people outside of our houses until gone 4am. The noise is unbearable, there are constant yells of abuse, arguments, shouting, screaming and chanting. The language is vulgar and the noise wakes up my [redacted] every single weekend without fail and its usually around 4am that I am able to get [redacted] back to sleep. Quite often the screaming loud drunken arguments scare our daughter and [redacted] is unable to get back to sleep, seeing [redacted] shaken and upset by hearing this outside of her window for hours is starting to *really* take its toll.

3) Around 3 to 4 months ago I contacted Stuart Mullins (Police Sergeant) with regards to the constant, every weekend Antisocial Behaviour (and criminal damage) that takes place outside of the club. He responded by informing me that 'Operation Marble' is a patrol that was created to curb problems from the Trek, however, due to staffing it's not possible to always do this patrol. Stuart also stated "The club cannot be held responsible for rowdy behaviour by those on the way there but can be accountable for problems caused by persons leaving the club."

so, if this is the case, why is this all still happening until 4am after the Trek is closed?? Clearly the Trek isn't being held accountable for problems caused by persons leaving the club. I think the answer is obvious, the area is *not* policed. The Trek staff close their doors after taking their money at 2am, then its us residents that have our weekends ruined by being subjected to the dreaded aftermath.

I have talked to many neighbours, some have given up complaining to the police as the problems always continue, others spent £1,500 on an EXTRA layer of double glazing to block out the dreadful noise of these crowds. I refuse to take either of these options and I propose that something should finally be done about the problems the customers of the club are causing.

Another thing I have noticed is empty drug bags left on the pavement. I know the Trek has a strict drugs policy, it appears the customers abide to this and consume whatever powders they have before entering. I do not find it acceptable when walking with our [redacted] on a Sunday morning that [redacted] can pick up a small drug bag with white powder grains still in the corner.

The litter on this street after the wrath of the Trek is a real sight. Us and many other neighbours wake up to urine on our door step/wall, vomit in the street or sometimes on our door steps.

There are resolutions to all of this,

1) why can't a 'dispersal order' be in place? I do not feel it is fair on residents that once the Trek shuts at 2am, the drunken customers can stay outside of our bedroom windows until 4am keeping us awake as they behave like animals, is that a fair option?

2) ENFORCE the 'no drinking on this street' policy... the current policy is laughed at.

3) policing. The Trek seems powerless in moving their customers off of this street at 2am... therefore should this be the police who do this? I feel rather enraged that every household on this street pays council tax, around 9% of what we pay is going to the police, and this road is *not* being policed, once the Trek closes, it is us who are then woken up for hours. We also pay our council tax for rubbish collection however the glasses, beer cans, bottles etc are always scattered outside of our front doors.

I am sure this isn't the first time you have been approached with regards to the Trek, I am writing to you as Blatchington Road is fast becoming the gutter of Seaford and action needs to be taken.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Complaint to Sgt Mullins regarding criminal damage to car after Trek closed.

14th APRIL 2014

Stuart.mullins@sussex.pnn.police.uk

4/14/1
4

to me, [redacted]

E mail. I am sorry to hear that you are experiencing problems in Blatchington Road as a result of your proximity to the Trek Club. I can assure you that we take reports of this type very seriously but gauge what action is required on the complaints that we receive in the first place. Having initially checked our systems the only report from yourself that I can find relates to the E mail you sent on 13/4/14. Have you complained about any of these problems in the past?

Seaford Police are well aware of issues surrounding the location of the Trek Club, and an additional public order patrol, which we refer to as Operation Marble, is assigned to patrol the area around the club over the weekend. Unfortunately this is a Lewes District resource and cannot be at the location all of the time the club is open. That being said complaints of disorder from the club are down considerably over the last year since those patrols were put in place. That together with less calls from the public have suggested to us that the situation is getting better.

Our licensing officers regularly visit the club and speak to the licensee. The club cannot be held responsible for rowdy behaviour by those on the way there but can be accountable for problems caused by persons leaving the club. However our licensing officers can only take issue with matters that are brought to our attention by the public, and if we are not getting these calls in the first place we have nothing to take issue with the club about.

I am happy to arrange for you to speak to a licensing officer so that you can pass details to them directly of the specific problems that you have had. I am also happy to arrange for a member of the Seaford Neighbourhood Policing Team to visit to see if there is anything else we can do, but note you have declined to discuss things with one of our PCSO's. Alternatively you are most welcome to give me a call to discuss the matter.

regards

Stuart Mullins
Police Sergeant

Seaford, Neighbourhood Policing Team

Tel: 101 Ext. 561230

xxxxxxxxxxxx@gmail.com

4/14/1
4

to Stuart.mullins

Hi Stuart

Thanks for your reply

I have not mailed in the past due to the perception I have on these things EG there's no point in complaining as not much can be done, I know many of the neighbours have told me verbally the exact same thing we have no choice but to put up with the mayhem. but after a while I guess the frustration builds up which led me to placing the complaint. Also being very skint and forking out to have a wiper fitted on the car spurred me to write it.

It's a waste of police time reporting pulled off windscreen wipers!!! But this is the third time now so yes I thought I'd at least send the mail.

I will send a message to the licensing office as you started. Not really much use in me talking to a PCSO as I know not much will happen unless something very serious happens out there.

Thanks for the information

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 September 2016 08:52
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: My final words!

Good morning Steve, after completing my process of speaking to local people about the problems I've learned even more of how various families have been effected. little things like someone started to sleep in their bathroom to avoid the disorder, to then staying at their mothers house at weekends in order to be able to function at their work properly. Residents planning weekends away to avoid the chaos and Family members stating they will not visit at a weekend and stay due to the disorder and being awake. I knew people were suffering from it but to hear this detail I found it quite sad. I know several local families who are professionals working in positions that are all orientated around safeguarding the public. Really stressful demanding Jobs who all quite often on a Monday start the week utterly exhausted. I've experienced that so much. It's not nice when you hear the terror at 2am ish and your adrenaline is pumping in fear of what could happen to someone. It's hard to get back to sleep after that.

That, I assure you, are my closing words !

Have a great Friday

Best regards,

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Councillor Carolyn Lambert <Cllr.Carolyn.Lambert@eastsussex.gov.uk>

Date: 22 September 2016 at 16:22:47 BST

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: The Trek

Dear [REDACTED]

I have just had a call from the Licensing Officer to say that the Trek's licence has been suspended.

I have talked to her about the presentation of your evidence and she suggests that the best thing is for you to contact Cllr Steve Bell. He is a Brighton and Hove Councillor who apparently has agreed to act as the representative for residents. You can then talk to him about protecting your anonymity.

His contact details are:

Bus. phone: 01273 291288

Email: steve.bell@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Hope this helps but don't hesitate to come back to me if you have any concerns.

Best wishes

Carolyn

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 22 September 2016 08:02

To: Councillor Carolyn Lambert

Subject: Re: The Trek

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your e.mail re The Trek Club.

I am listing the complaints I have below. I also will fear reprisals if I am identified so would like my name and exact address kept confidential please.

I have been living here on Broad Street North since 2002 and for the entire time I've been here I have dreaded Friday and Saturday nights because of the Trek Club!!

1. I have to move my car to a safer parking spot because I know if I don't I risk it being interfered with by drunk youngsters passing on their way home from the club. I have had both wing mirrors wrenched out. I've had food takeaways plastered all over my car and my radio aerial has disappeared! I look at other cars in the road and often see their mirrors wrenched off as well!

2. I am appalled at the number of drunk male and females who pass my flat between 2 am and 3 am on Saturday and Sunday mornings. They shout and argue using foul language. Fights have broken out and I've been tempted many times to call the police! Drink glasses are often left on the roadside.

Thank you for putting forward my complaints.

Best regards,

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 September 2016 11:42
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Non Trek Night...23.9.2016

I give permission for councillor Steve Bell to read out my statement on my behalf - What an absolute joy last night was to be able to settle down for the night, without the continuous shouting screaming of groups of drunken people passing by my living room window thumping on the windows, sitting on the window sills, parking themselves in my joint door way having loud drunken conversations, arguing...this is the normal activities that take place on their way to the Trek club and afterwards.

I can honestly say that I have not felt comfortable enough to invite family/friends round on a Friday/Saturday evening, and could certainly not entertain inviting anyone to stay over due to the loud continuous gross antisocial behavior that seems to take place every week when the Trek club turns out.....my sleep is always interrupted on Trek nights, which in turn effects my ability to carry out my job role.

It is very frightening to hear, witnesses such violent behavior once the Trek has turned out at 2am.....the disruption is extremely disturbing, and gets completely out of control, with various groups all joining in. This has happened weekly I can confidently say since I've moved into this road last year.

I would like to add this road is a lovely close knit community who have all welcomed me since moving in ..during the day we all get on with our own lives, but look out for one another, the whole atmosphere completely changes on a Trek night....

I sincerely hope the silent nights will continue and we can just quietly all get on with our everyday lives Thankyou for taking time to hear a residents side of the story.

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 September 2016 10:52
To: BELL, Steve; [REDACTED]
Subject: Trek Nightclub

Good morning Steve

Over the years my neighbours and myself have had to live with the threat of violence erupting both inside and outside the Trek on Friday and Saturday nights. It is the escalation of that violence which has prompted my attempt to have the club closed down. I cannot continue to live here with the constant worry of violence hanging over my head for every weekend of the year. I have also to contend with disturbed nights from drunken people making their way past my house in Broad Street North and Blatchington Road to the club from pubs in the town who have closed for the night. Their abusive language and shouting is bad enough on their way to the club but having consumed more alcohol whilst at the club this becomes even worse and then the violence erupts. I am sick and tired of being woken up on Friday and Saturday nights to witness people completely out of control due to excess alcohol. There seems to be no control over the admission of drunken people to the club. All are welcome whatever the degree of inebriation. Further amounts of alcohol are then consumed which inevitably lead to the increase in violent behaviour of both men and women on the dance floor and outside the club. They have no respect for anyone including the doormen and the police who have both been attacked over the years. In other words they take the law into their own hands and mayhem follows. This is intolerable behaviour and should be stopped. The owner of the club makes the matter worse by ignoring the fact that her customers are drunk. Proof of this is her statements in black and white that there is "zero drunkenness" in her club. Turning a blind eye to the problems only make them worse. This violence must be stopped by other means before someone is killed.

[REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 September 2016 11:17
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Trek Nightclub

Good morning again Steve

I omitted to include in my first email the fact that this weekend with the club closed has been totally quiet. It will take some time to adjust to this peace but long may it continue.

I hereby give you permission to speak on my behalf in respect of my two emails of today's date.

[REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 September 2016 09:56
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: The Trek

Good morning Steve

I hereby give you permission to speak on my behalf in respect of this and my other two emails dated 25 September 2016.

Carolyn Lambert one of the councillors is trying to persuade residents that the violence at the Trek is being caused by people who are passing by. This is absolute nonsense. There is absolutely no reason for people to pass by the Trek between 11pm and 2 am. The violence is caused by people who make their drunken way from the pubs in the town only to consume further amounts of alcohol inside and outside the club. Nothing whatsoever to do with these alleged passers by. She is also trying to blame the police not the club.

I should like the Licensing Committee to close down the Trek club for good never to open again and that is after years of living with the fear of violence and disturbed Friday and Saturday nights. The last weekend was bliss so peaceful and quiet a situation that I have not experienced for many years. For the first time I felt safe knowing that nothing was going to happen.

To whom it may concern

We moved to Blatchington Road in [REDACTED] 2014 and immediately experienced the regular unrest caused by the Trek club clientele on a weekend. I specifically recall an event 2 weeks after moving in as my Father had suddenly passed away and I had to leave my wife and [REDACTED] old daughter at home alone. That night a car driven by a drunk driver ploughed into one of the houses on the corner – my wife was pleading with the Trek bouncers to call the police who were reluctant to take any action which we now understand to be the norm and actively discouraged as it is regularly left to residents to call 999 when there are disturbances.

My car has been vandalised on 3 occasions with broken wing mirrors and on one occasion a traffic bollard hurled through the air causing a large dent to the top of the car that is still there. The only time we close our blinds as well as our curtains is at weekends in an attempt to avoid unwanted banging on the windows or ringing of the doorbell. If we are still up after 11.30pm we switch the lights off for the same reason but unfortunately these measures are not always adequate deterrents. Our daughter who is now [REDACTED] is regularly woken up and distressed by the violence and noise disturbance and if there is noise outside [REDACTED] asks if it is the 'naughty boys', which is our way of explaining to her that she should not be scared of the noise. [REDACTED] has woken up on numerous occasions hysterical because the noise is deafening in both the front and back bedrooms and she cannot understand the aggressive atmosphere. We have to close her windows at the back of the house even on uncomfortably warm nights although again often in vain.

There are always bottles, glasses, drug wraps, broken plant pots, urine, vomit etc left as evidence in the morning that the residents of the street are left to clear up in the absence of any willingness of the Trek owners to take any responsibility for.

I apologise that I am unable to provide specific dates for many of the events of unrest that have occurred since we have lived here but the police will have a record of calls made from our house phone of 01323 [REDACTED] if they were to run a trace. I have also contacted ESCC before about the level of noise generated by the Trek. On one occasion earlier this year police attended our house the following day to dust our window for fingerprints and DNA following a fight whereby someone was hit leaving blood sprayed all over it.

I can however specifically recall events on the nights of [REDACTED] July and 19 August having called 999 on both occasions and most recently 10 September:

- A weekend in July a fight occurred allegedly involving a baseball bat whereby a man was lying on the street unconscious. An ambulance, paramedic car and several police vehicles attended. A range rover was abandoned unlocked on the yellow lines outside that police believed had been involved. The noise was so loud outside that I was unable to hear the police call centre receptionist and she could clearly hear the affray. . My neighbours and I stood on the street and liaised with the police telling

them what we had seen and heard and the Trek owners and bouncers were also present. My wife was inside settling our daughter until 3.30am. I recall Yvonne the owner telling the police that 'it had been a lovely quiet night that was spoiled by others' as if the subsequent events had nothing to do with them. We spoke to her and said we were concerned that the violence had escalated and that the regular anti-social behaviour was unacceptable but she refused to acknowledge that it was as a consequence of the existence of the Trek. When we pointed out that it was not fair on all the children regularly woken up she retorted 'well I can't see any children out here' despite the fact it was 3am. My neighbours and I remained on the street outside until 4.30am when the range rover was retrieved by a woman and a taxi driver having driven past the scene once and returning once the police had left. All of this information was phoned through by our neighbour at number [REDACTED] and I understand my neighbours of both number [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were up until 6am that night as the disturbance continued.

- 19 August we were woken by a fight outside at approximately 2am and my neighbours of both number [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] came out onto the street also. I have a voice recording of the noise that night which includes my daughter being hysterical due to the noise and the fearful atmosphere and my wife shouting out of the window for them to stop fighting. We all heard a horrible crunch that we took to be a head against a car on the hill that I reported to the police and said I would have expected there to be some damage to vehicles.
- 10 September we were woken by shouting and screaming outside and then heard our neighbour at number [REDACTED] shouting from her window for them to stop. We heard a man shouting for them to 'run the other way as there's a police van up there'. I attempted to get a voice recording but unfortunately the quality is poor and difficult to hear.

I believe us to be tolerant people who have no issue with people enjoying themselves and would expect noise volumes to increase when alcohol is present. However, it is hard to fathom why, in an ordinarily quiet, poorly lit residential area, predominantly housing young families and elderly people, the Trek licence is granted until 2am resulting in the volume of attendance post pub closures. It may be of interest to note that there is large amounts of noise around 11-12.30am when people are going into the club but the real antisocial behaviour is when the club 'kicks out' around 2am and you could set your watch to this. Having lived in both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] we have never been exposed to such routine disturbance, violence and antisocial behaviour and this is not simply people having fun, loudly with alcohol. Why should my family and neighbours live in fear? This is intolerable and unacceptable and we collectively dread that someone could be killed and urge that action is taken.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Blatchington Road

The general unpleasantness of the Trek and the behaviour of it's patrons can largely be summarised as follows:

*First, the litter - bottles, cans, glasses, debris from the burger van etc strewn around. Various bodily fluids in the porch way.

*There is also frequent damage to the car - wing mirrors, radio aerials and windscreen wipers, even on one occasion footprints across the bonnet, windscreen and roof resulting in rippling of the metal

*Then, of course, there is the noise and fighting that occur on a regular basis - we have added secondary glazing to the existing double-glazing and an extra internal front door (costing over £1200) to help mitigate the noise, but this does nothing to deal with the threat of large cohorts of people using our street as a violent battleground.



Blatchington Road

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 September 2016 17:07
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Trek Nightclub

To Steve Bell/Maria Caulfield,

My girlfriend and I have lived in Broad Street North in Seaford since August 2015. During that time there has been regular and protracted criminal damage, antisocial behaviour and noise problems due to our proximity to the Trek Nightclub.

The main bedroom in our flat faces the street however this is rendered unusable on nights when the Trek is open due to shouting, swearing, screaming, the noise of arguments and fights and smashing noises of criminal damage. We have been forced to sleep in our rear facing bedroom which is too small, and even now (and despite using ear plugs) we are regularly woken at 2am, 3am, 4am and later by the noise of arguments and shouting/screaming. This has a major impact on us both as we work shift work and often have to get up early on weekends.

On the night of Saturday 3rd October 2015 I was woken at 3am by a large disturbance happening outside our flat with shouting and smashing noises and the next morning discovered that the front wing of my car had been smashed by a large object so badly that it was jammed against the bonnet - preventing it from being opened. I was quoted £600 to replace the panel but, as there is no CCTV footage of the crime and no-one arrested I had to bear the cost of this repair - which I could not afford to do. I had owned the car for 2 months at the time and was my first new car. I no longer park on my street as I feel it will happen again, and now have to walk 10 minutes from my address in order to park my car somewhere more safely. This incident was reported to the Trek Nightclub, Lewes District Council and Sussex Police.

I have filed five or six complaints about noise and anti-social behaviour relating to the Trek Nightclub to Lewes District Council but in reality, I could have sent a complaint every single week. People are urinating against residents front doors/cars, there have been instances of defecation, bottles and rubbish are thrown in peoples front gardens and smashed in the street. I haven't once seen a Sussex police vehicle patrolling the area.

I, as well as most other residents are absolutely fed up with the problems we've been having. I have personally been a victim of crime as I'm sure many other residents have been. It has got to the stage where we are considering moving because of it which we don't want to do, but don't see that have a choice.

Many thanks and kind regards for your interest, and for the ability to give our account. I will be forwarding this email to Lewes District Council and Sussex Police. I hope that the Trek Nightclub has it's licence permanently suspended in the meeting in October, so that residents can finally feel safe in their own neighbourhood.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Broad Street North
 Seaford
 BN25 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 September 2016 20:21
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Trek Club Seaford

Dear Maria

Thank you so much for your letter about the Trek Club. It is such a relief that someone is giving us a voice after many years of suffering because of the Trek Club.

I live directly behind the Trek Club in Chichester Road, I have lived here for 28 years. The noise from the club has always been an issue but it has got worse over recent years. The sound system is so loud that you can hear the music and the DJ from inside my house at weekends. From 11pm we have the sound of people shouting as they walk down the hill and go in the club, three hours of thumping music and then up to an hour of people literally screaming at each other outside as they go home. The sound of violence can be very frightening sometimes, girls screaming and crying, men shouting, glass being broken, I have often been tempted to call the police as it sounds like people are in danger. The alleyway from Blatchington Road to Chichester Road is regularly covered with vomit and broken glass. We have to wear earplugs to be able to sleep at weekends [REDACTED]. We were woken up by the violence that led to the club being closed and knew that something serious was happening.

It was a huge relief to hear that local residents will be able to express their concerns about the Trek Club. It is very difficult to sell properties so close to the club because of the noise issue. If the club is to reopen they need to address how to reduce the impact of the music at night, soundproofing inside or capping the noise level to something suitable for a residential area? They also need to work with the police to reduce the level of drunken violence before and after the club, but I don't know how this would be achieved, I just wish it would close for good so we can enjoy our weekend evenings and be able to sleep at night.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Chichester Road
[REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2016 00:39
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Trek Nightclub

Hi

I live at [REDACTED] Blatchington Road and would like to add my comments with regard to recent events. Over the years everyone in my household has had damage of some sort done to their vehicles: my daughters car was walked across (footprints on the roof) and broken into, all four cars have had wing mirrors broken off, my car was broken into as well and a window smashed twice. Whilst all these events can't all be blamed on people leaving the Trek they all happened overnight either on a Friday or a Saturday. Some of these incidents have been reported to the police but mostly we don't bother as there is no point other than for insurance claims. None of us now park cars anywhere near The Trek over the weekend.

There is also a lot of noise from people shrieking and yelling as they walk home up Blatchington Road, with the occasional fight.

I actually don't want The Trek to lose its licence, I don't go there but think it's nice for Seaford to have a facility like this. What would be good would be a better managed club with policy's put in place to manage behaviour particularly drink/drugs and people's exit from the club late at night. It's not realistic to expect there not to be any problems but it would be nice to be able to park close to home over the weekend!

Regards [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Blatchington Road
BN25 [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2016 13:06
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Fw: the trek night club

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 27/09/2016 12:35
To: <steve.bell@parliament.uk>
Cc: <steve.bell@brighton>
Subj: the trek night club

Dear Stephen please help, Im a resident near this club and every Friday/Saturday night without fail can only be described as football holigans.it starts with them marching to the top of Broad Steet North shouting to the resident wake up you load of wankers,then they congregate for over an hour outside the Queens Hall.,which people live with young children,next the men urinate down the alley and vomiting then they stand in the road fighting rowing shouting at the top of their voices the girls being much worse this goes on till sometimes 4am.ive witnessed mums telling them to go away and men gone outside but obviously outnumberd ,the police have come on several times but that even takes time to disburse them but their blue flashinglights keep you awake anyway.I have to park my car 2 streets away every weekend because ive seen them jumping on the bonnets and roofs.some people have moved due to the frequeny of this outrageous behaviour and I will soon join them,Last weekend was the first weekend ive sleep for years.please close this club as this will never stop. yours hopefully [REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2016 14:31
To: CAULFIELD, Maria
Subject: Re: TREK NIGHTCLUB, [REDACTED] BLATCHINGTON ROAD, SEAFORD, EAST SUSSEX, BN25 [REDACTED]

Categories: steve bell

Thanks Maria. Had the first uninterrupted Saturday night sleep this weekend for some time. Being on Chichester road and sleeping in a front room. I can only hear the trex at closing with a handful of revelers walking up the Alley way, [REDACTED] I have only ever heard drunken arguments and nothing that has made me feel threatened.

I do try and ensure I park away from where the alley way comes into Chichester road after this dent appeared in my brand new car during a Saturday night, when I had parked next to the Alley. I did report it the police, but obviously have no proof it was caused by someone from the trex.

Kind regards [REDACTED]



Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 26, 2016, at 9:59 AM, CAULFIELD, Maria <maria.caulfield.mp@parliament.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

I wanted to be in touch to provide you with the attached Press Release that has been sent out by Sussex Police. This follows on from a letter from myself that, if you haven't received already, should drop through your letterbox shortly relating to the same subject.

Best wishes.

Maria

Maria Caulfield MP

Member of Parliament for Lewes

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I hereby give permission for Councillor Steve Bell to speak on my behalf.

Having lived in many city centres for years (including Brighton) and being surrounded by many late night licenced premises I have always been tolerant and not one to complain and in these cities I never did witness scenes alike to what regularly unfolds outside of our homes when the Trek is open for business and also when it closes its doors.

To everybody who does not live on our road - for years we have not been able to even have any front bedroom windows open (even on stifling hot summer nights) due to the violence and disorder that regularly spills out onto blatchington road / broad street at the weekends. Regularly waking up residents and children on the street in the early hours. Quality of life is being affected by many, being woken up with extremely intoxicated screaming, threats, swearing, assaults, fists flying and drunken disorder which is very frightening. Things have got so bad outside of our homes I had been worried that someone might get killed. It's very difficult to try to explain to young children. It is even more frightening to now discover from police reports what serious injuries customers have received in the club and around 15/20 metres from our homes. This has gotten more and more violent to the point someone is now critically injured and the police have finally taken action.

Even with heavy police presence at the club last weekend someone was found unconscious outside assaulted by a customer which is saddening, but this reveals at the same how people behave on this very 'off the radar' tucked away residential area. There is a heavy culture of violence around the club in the early hours, not just this year but going back many many years. It does not take a criminological genius to understand that crime depends on the environment and people act according to their surroundings. The trek is off the radar and out of sight and a culture of large scale fighting and violence and anti-social behaviour has become the norm. It also seems it is the norm to a) not press charges or give a statement given how many of the victims this year did not want to pursue their attackers. This year it is spiralling out of control and it concerns me that the owners do not acknowledge this. The huge 'fight' culture has grown and it's peaked into a very serious tragic situation which cannot be undone for the victim. It can only go further to end with someone being killed and many of us have been living in fear of this inevitable sad ending.

I was saddened to read how the owner told the Argus "They move in next to a nightclub and then having got a cheap deal they make out there is noise.". These are lies - many residents took recordings of the huge violent brawls outside, some so frightening you can hear children waking up. Of course others you only have to read police witness statements explaining the large scale of violence alike to 'like the wild west', or just have to learn about the injuries of victims this year, some life changing. So I hope you can understand residents are offended when accused 'making out there is noise?' No - as evidence shows, the owners are making out there isn't noise. This is beyond noise, this is extreme violence.

These houses were built late 1800s to safely house families; they were not built to absorb high levels of intoxicated violence over weekends. There are many families with young children on our roads, including foster families who protecting children who are at risk of harm.

I too share the view of Maria Caufield and I am pleased the club has finally been closed before it is too late. To blame the police is absurd, it is us residents who call them when we are woken with the violence. This area feels even more unsafe when discovering in the police report that no one called the police from the club when a brutal attack was taking place which made me feel even more nervous living here - feeling that it us residents that are left to call the police. If we do not, will someone be left for dead? This is not the only time the club has not called the police, in fact sadly many other locals have told me that is the way the club operates. Things have been out of control for quite some time and I am deeply saddened to hear how far this has now gone when hearing how the member of staff has life changing injuries. The quality of life for residents and the safety of seafoods young people has been vastly improved by the urgent police action and I am thankful it's been taken before it's too late.

Discussing the anti-social behaviour and violence with a local councillor two years ago I was told it was probably other people passing through our neighbourhood that were causing the issues and it would not be associated with the trek. This is non-sense given the evidence but since the police closed the club to stop more serious violence we have all clearly seen that hardly anyone passes through this very quiet family road at the weekends, and the ones that do are very very quiet, or should I say, acting completely civilised. Until 1am that night, (very few) people passed by in total silence. In fact all I did hear was one group of girls who must have been walking back from the pubs around 1245 who were laughing.

Since this club has been closed I have also been able to let air into a child's room for once at a weekend without the fear of them waking yet again to violence. This felt like a huge privilege as I am tired of my child being upset from such large outbursts of violence outside. Now I realise how 'normalised' the anti-social behaviour and violence has become in our lives and how desperate measures have been taken by residents to try and not be effected. (IE buying new 2nd layers of windows for over a thousand pounds and still hearing the disorder) Since two years ago several family members have declined to stay overnight ever again at a weekend my house as due to the violence and antisocial behaviour they were woken up to when staying in our spare room. I am looking forward to when I am able to have them stay again.

On the first Friday night the club was closed for once I was able to use my living room without fear past midnight without the usual fear of people banging on our windows before entering the club, or the usual fear of hearing someone urinating against my front door after dumping their cans and glasses in my door way. Or the usual fear of the usual loud very drunken arguments or quarrels that occur in my doorway- all of the above takes place regularly over the years /weekends prior to people entering the club. I'll also include my car being smashed up 3 times, of course no one was ever prosecuted leaving me out of pocket as the club CCTV does not protect residents, it only protects and views the club.

Putting these vulgar, but minor factors aside above I then realised for once I was going to bed at 1am without being riddled with anxiety about being woken up in an hour's time by yet another 'street brawl' which quite often made me feel so on edge I thought somebody would end up dead when the huge fights erupt outside of our homes. I still felt nervous last weekend even though it was closed, purely because I now realise our weekends have been spent 'on edge' at night times for so long it became normality.

It is now was for the first time in years the area has felt safe. And the worry of someone being beaten to death outside or seriously injured was finally lifted. For once I saw dog walkers outside of my window after midnight, (probably walking their dogs without the fear of broken bottles hurting their animal)

The Trek owner even acknowledges in an Argus interview there has been a rise in aggression; the many police reports of the violence this year also confirm this.

PLEASE put an end to all of this violence and disorder before it is too late by having this premises remaining closed. It has been a thorn in the side of the residents for many years, deeply affecting the quality of our lives whilst it also deeply dangerous to the many young lives outside as this year the escalating violence has proved. Leaving this premises open to continue makes an absolute mockery of the core licencing objectives and it also will bring more serious crime and disorder. As a resident I pray that both sussex police and the local authorities consider the concrete evidence and revoke the licence of the premises. Living next to this club frightening over the weekends and residents have had enough of living like this. Living in fear of somebody being killed outside is not the life normal seafood residents live.

PS Going back to the comment "they make out there's noise " Before the Trek was closed down the below are exact times when I was woken up to violence and disorder - should these be disputed you can check these correlate with police reports Also audio evidence of large scale disorder has been given to the police from residents.

Yours sincerely



 Blatchington Road

Seaford

Sep 10th/11th – sometime after 130am I was woken as I heard screams and disorder through my baby monitor that is transmitting from my child's room, I heard people screaming , males and females - complete chaos. I think I heard a neighbour scream from a near window to stop. It sounded like a large fight like many of the others we are woken by. Miraculously our children due to being exhausted from a very late night the day before were not

We give our permission for councillor Steve Bell to speak on our behalf.

STATEMENT REGARDING THE TREK CLUB, BLATCHINGTON ROAD

Firstly, we would like to talk about last weekend, Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th September. After 10 years we could leave all the windows and vents open during the evening and when we went to bed. We heard no singing, or witnessed fighting and could leave us car parked outside our own home knowing it would not be vandalised. We left our lights on by the window and even left our front door battery in. There was no smashed glasses or bottles outside. What a difference – our grandchildren stayed this weekend and we went to bed with no fear of them waking.

We moved to Blatchington Road 10 years ago, to live in town as my wife doesn't drive. We did contact the anti social behaviour team at Lewes Council after a few months and even had meetings with the police about all the fighting at weekends, but sadly, probably due to cost nothing changed.

Over the years we have had damage to our car, back windows smashed and side mirrors broken (all reported) even footprints all over the car. All these events took place on Friday and Saturday nights.

Events that have taken place Friday and Saturday night : all taking place between the hours of just after midnight until 2.30 am.

- Bottles and broken glass left on the street.
- Ringing on doorbell, we now take out our batteries.
- very loud and heavy banging on the front window as they pass.
- Singing extremely loudly going to the club, shouting and swearing but the worse thing must be the fighting. We have witnessed huge numbers fighting outside our windows. We have a street light opposite and can see clearly. There have been sexual activities over the cars, to the side of our house, even on the green opposite.

We have tried to help ourselves with the noise, we had new strengthened windows put in the front and also a second door. Sadly, we can still hear all the swearing, arguing, singing and fighting outside and find it difficult to go to sleep, and then again woken up when the club closes.

Since the pubs now remain open until midnight they arrive later to the club. It does clearly state on their website that last admittance is 12.30 pm but we can definitely state they are arriving up until 1am. We have witness some youngsters hardly being able to walk, they stagger in the road, obviously drunk, but sadly still wanting more and being admitted to the club. (We are sure that they would not behave like this outside their own homes).

We have seen the bouncers outside our house trying to break up fights. Cars driven away erratically, just after 2am, from outside our house. We have seen car accidents, one car stopping outside our house inches away, a very serious accident involving parked cars, the police were involved.

Sadly, we feel over the last 2 to 3 years events have got worse and we worry about the consequences and outcome for the youngsters involved in the heavy drinking and fighting. The fights are very frightening to hear, even worse to witness and we are extremely worried about the lack of control will result in youngsters being hurt badly, or even worse. We feel this all due to the drinking even more when they go the club. We were extremely upset to learn that the violence and brawls inside the Trek Club have got so bad this year that the doorman has received life changing injuries. Must we wait until someone is killed before we decide to close the club.

We have many more residents in the area, even a new establishment being built for 'older people' next to Tesco. We can assure you they will witness all the fighting, anti social behaviour and hear the music.

Clearly, after such a peaceful weekend when the club was closed, we only hear and witness these events when the club is open. (Also can I say the club is open extra nights if we have a bank holiday, and even Christmas Eve and Boxing Day). How many residents in Seaford are kept awake until after 2.30 am on Christmas Eve!!

We had such a peaceful weekend, normal, and feel the time has come for The Trek Club to close permanently. We would love to be able to put out hanging baskets outside, Christmas decorations on our door, all normal events but sadly things we can't do as they would be destroyed. We try to not 'highlight' our windows with the hope our house will not be picked on. We are both pensioners and get extremely concerned about all the aggressive behaviour knowing we must not interfere or shout out. My wife has stated that if she was on her own at weekends she would not live in our house because she would be too frightened.

We would now state firmly that the Trek Club should be closed permanently, please don't wait until it all ends in tragedy.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Blatchington Road
Seaford BN25 [REDACTED]

September 2016

woken but the noise sounded terrifying. The next day multiple neighbours also tell me they were woken, one neighbour informs me it was 3 fights at once outside of the trek and she was frightened and needed to beg for the police to come to help. I later learned another woken neighbour recorded the audio as proof of the large scale disorder outside of our homes. Police arrived and as always, perpetrators ran off into the night.

28th August.2016. woken up at 1.30am with screams from females who sounded terrified whilst a male screamed threats at violence at others. I felt scared someone was going to be seriously hurt as a fight unfolded, I called the police.

19th/20th August 2016 – complete disorder on broad street, a huge brawl unfolds 20 metres from the trek door, the trek staff stand and watch as many threaten to kill each other and many females scream in fear for it to stop., neighbours child woke up scared, then our children woke up crying.– video evidence sent to the police to prove the disorder. Police were called. Offenders with tops off. A very frightening evening/morning.

Weekend in July. Most neighbours and children woken up by a huge brawl. Police are called, abandoned car found, reports of baseball bats being used and violence. Many residents awake until 4am frightened and tired and fed up of the fighting. Police were called.

19th December 2015 – most residents woken up once club was emptying to screams of violence. A young man out cold outside of our houses with screaming and chaos and threats of violence all around. Children were woken up and police were called. This was frightening and I was worried that the young man was dead. The current police report states he had many broken bones. His friends were shouting very violently and many ran off in different directions to fight.

I gave all of this information to SGT Mullins Lewes police.

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2016 17:52
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: The Trek

Dear Steve,

Thank you so much for representing me and I very much agree to you communicating on my behalf.

The letter from Maria Caulfield was enormously encouraging too.

Though I work as a [REDACTED] and am used to managing challenging situations, I cannot convey how deeply troubled and anxious I have felt over the last three years of living close the The Trek. I was fully aware of the club when I purchased my property and have an open mind to the need for people to unwind socially. I was aware there could be some noise but have been completely shocked by the level of violence which has continued throughout the time I have lived in my home.

I do not feel in anyway that this is because of a lack of police presence and believe it would be a complete waste of resources to have police 'standing by' outside. I also do not believe in any way that the aggression is caused by individuals simply passing through the area. I have witnessed hundreds of occasions where people arrive already under the influence of substances, only to leave in a highly intoxicated state several hours later.

Having never visited the club I was unaware of the awful level of violence inside the venue until this investigation. I am not a dramatic person by nature but stand firm by my belief that it is only a matter of time before someone dies as a result of violence outside of the Trek.

Last weekend was extremely peaceful as a residential area in a lovely town should be - there were no glasses - plastic ones still with straws in on my windowsill, no vomit outside, I had my bedroom window open for the first time in three years and my greatest relief is that my parents, adult children and friends now feel they can visit me for a weekend without being unnecessarily frightened or traumatized by the effect this establishment has on my home and town.

With kind regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Blatchington Road,
Seaford, East Sussex.
BN25 [REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 September 2016 18:50
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: The Trek

The noise levels some nights is totally umberable and the language disgraceful I'm all for youngsters having a good time but to be screaming down the street at 2am is very disrespectful. Since the club has had its licence suspended it's so nice and quiet.

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 September 2016 23:07
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Re: The Trek

Dear Steve,

Thank you for your encouraging email and I confirm that I need you to represent my statements as a resident very much affected by The Trek.

I also wanted to convey the very disturbing effects of general anti-social behaviour that may have been almost passed by in the focus on the level of violence both inside and outside of The Trek. These being vomit in the area outside my house, faeces in my doorway until I had a reliable security light fitted, and the ongoing drunken, loud and frightening arguments in my porchway which often extend for long periods of time - more usually related to relationships between couples and other people intervening.

Sometimes relating to attempted negotiations as to whether sexual intercourse can take place at a alternative venue. The latter could be conceived as comical - which it never is - but when it is clear for example that it is a young, lone female under the influence of alcohol or substances unable to consent then I feel extremely concerned.

The general level of noise sometimes as drunken friends try to find each other until 4 a.m. is also unacceptable.

I have repeatedly felt that I need to lie awake as a responsible member of the neighbourhood and kind citizen until all is quiet in the later early hours as I live in fear that someone may be hurt and unattended to while I decipher how threatening the level of aggression is becoming. I do not lie awake waiting for any noise as I have learnt to grab sleep in snatches on a Friday or Saturday evening where I can.

It should not be my responsibility or that of my neighbours or indeed those of the police to act as an expected supply service to an extremely and increasingly poorly run nightclub venue.

With thanks,
[REDACTED]

On Wednesday, 28 September 2016, 14:20, "BELL, Steve" <steve.bell@parliament.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you so much for your email, it is appreciated and hopefully we will be able to bring you all peace of mind for the future.

Best wishes

Steve Bell CBE

Office of Maria Caulfield MP
House of Commons,
London, SW1A 0AA
0207 219 5946

Chichester Road
Seaford BN25
25 September 2016

re: Trek Nightclub

With reference to your letter of 23 September in relation to above.

I would state over the years the noise has been loud late at night from inside and outside the Club.

It did calm down for a while but in recent years has got noisy again especially when the clubbers turn out. The men always use the alley way next to the club as a big toilet.

Cars are damaged in nearby roads and I have seen that private doorways are used as toilets.

Perhaps if the hours are shortened to close at 11, may help.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

REC
28 SEP 2016

28 SEP 2016

[REDACTED]

CANTON PLACE

STAFFORD

EAST SX

BN25

27-9-2016

TEXT:

MOB:

RE: TREK NIGHTCLUB

Dear Mum,

I'm absolutely delighted to receive the news of The Treks suspension. I'll be ecstatic if you can close it for good. I have resided at the above address since June 2003, ergo I and everybody else within a 1 mile radius of said nightclub has endured total misery on Fridays & Saturdays. The screaming & shouting, the broken shop windows, the vibration in the street, are beyond the pale. I now have a [REDACTED] who is regularly woken in the early hours of the weekend & it is not acceptable. When I first moved in, 13 years ago, I made
P.T.O.

numerous verbal complaints to Lewes Council, they were all going to be "ticked into" but nothing ever happened, so like a lot of councillors, we gave up. Now you've come along & are prepared to actually do something about it, well done! My vote has been indicated. I have no wish to denigrate young people! we've all been young once, but I fail to comprehend, why with today's licensing laws, why they are opened 12 hours almost deep into the early hours. I understand why it happens in cities eg Brighton & London etc, but seaside towns, no! As a former Lewes resident I remember they shut down Chas in Palace Street, but then show the same understanding of the problem here.

Yours Sincerely


BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 September 2016 10:00
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Trek Nightclub, [REDACTED] Blatchington Road, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Caulfield,

Thank you for your letter regarding the suspended licence of the Trek nightclub and for inviting us to have our say. It is a shame we were not aware of the meeting you had with residents recently.

I am a resident at [REDACTED] Blatchington road and although our property [REDACTED] a bit we are constantly disturbed by the treks customers and should not have to live with the mess and chaos created by them.

Every weekend we are subjected to hours of noise, screaming, shouting, swearing and fighting on the way to and from the club. Frequently people gather outside our property up to the corner of Claremont road where there are no police or club security to make them leave quietly or ensure fights do not break out.

This is not acceptable for residents to have to constantly not be able to sleep, I do shift work and many times have gone to work with very little or no sleep due to these people.

There have been occasions where I have considered calling the police as I just want to sleep and can't due to the commotion outside, on occasions I've heard people shouting 'I'm going to F*****g kill him/them' where are the police and club security to monitor the whole road and surrounding roads rather than directly outside the trek club?

We regularly have people kicking or hitting our properties gates and if these were not locked we would have people trespassing into our garden and no doubt damaging things.

Peoples cars are frequently damaged if left parked on the street, it is not fair that residents in Blatchington road have to park there car in other streets to ensure their vechiles are not damaged. Many a time people's wing mirrors have been smashed off and I recall one occasion where trek customers were jumping on a neighbours car. Why should residents foot the bill for the damage?

I often come home from work late when the trek revellers are coming or going and am always worried about the aggravation and aggression from people towards me trying to enter my property, being a [REDACTED] women this is scary and intimidating.

Every morning after 'trek nights' the road is a mess, broken glass, bottles, food packaging and cigarettes litter the street. It only gets cleaned up by residents who are not responsible for it. The trek club should surely have an obligation to ensure mess created from them is cleaned up by the following morning (early). Numerous times we have had to sweep away broken glass to get our vechiles out only to have drive over it further down the road resulting in punctured tyres, another cost residents have to foot.

I feel it important to say that I am [REDACTED] years old and enjoy going out in Brighton or London, however I along with many other residents have had enough of being subjected to this club.

The trek club has had its time and is no longer suited to a residential area. Seaford residents are lucky to be so close to Eastbourne and Brighton which have a much better nightlife.

Let's hope this place remains closed.

Yours faithfully,

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 September 2016 11:13
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: TREK CLUB IN SEAFORD

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Trek club in seaford.

I am so pleased to hear that the club has been suspended, only hoping that it will eventually be closed for good.

My [REDACTED] have lived in chichester road for [REDACTED] years now and have had to put up with the trouble that comes with the club for many years.

We have complained many a time to the police and even the owners of the club but always seem to be ignored.

Every weekend we are woken up in the early hours of the morning with shouting ,swearing, fighting with drunken louts. They use the twitten to walk through and urinate and also take drugs.

We feel the club should never have been built in a residential area and would be pleased to see it go and have some peace in our lifes.

Thank you for taking time to look into this issue,

Kind Regards,
[REDACTED]

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 September 2016 16:30
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Resident of Broad Street North

Dear Mr Bell,

Many thanks for your phone call to myself of Saturday 24th September regarding the "Trek Club" in Seaford

I understand there has been much talk of the temporary suspension of the Clubs Licence, pending a hearing on the 17th October.

I fully support these actions and would welcome the clubs licence being terminated on a permanent basis.

On a Friday and Saturday nights I am forced to park my car well away from my property fearing more damage to my car.

I have lived within [REDACTED] meters of the club for just under [REDACTED] years, and had beer bottles and chips placed on the roof of my car, I regularly have my car wing mirrors and windscreen wipers tampered with and my son only a few weeks ago has had to endure a scratch completely down one side of his car, this was done in the early hours of a Sunday morning!

Walking up the road on a Saturday or Sunday morning, you can usually see a number of cars that have shared similar experiences.

Even at midnight on New Years Eve, I was outside clearing broken beer bottles from the road outside my property.

Whilst I was away 2 weeks ago, I understand there was a large brawl outside my property to which the police were called to attend. I understand this was a serious incident there by people were severely injured. This is no surprise!

Every Friday and Saturday, late evenings there is always loud, extremely bad language and shouting up and down the street, this goes on most of the night. I can sleep through this but even so I should not have to endure this.

I have also had raw eggs thrown from the street behind my property hitting my bedroom windows.

About 8 months ago, on a Sunday morning, I looked out of my window to find a mid twenty year old man attending to his car [REDACTED] that had the side of the front wing completely kicked in!

I can understand the frustration for the owners of the club, and I'm sure they do not wish for there visitors to upset the "neighbours" but the problem seems to be out of control.

Please protect my anonymity.

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 September 2016 16:43
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: re The Trek Club Blatchington Road

We give permission for councillor Steve Bell to speak on our behalf.

We would like to tell you how much life has improved following the temporary closure of The Trek. Not only having peaceful nights but waking up on Saturday and Sunday morning not having to face the debris from the night before (broken glass, beer bottles and cans) but also not having to count the ancillaries left on our car (wing mirrors, wipers and car aerials) and looking at dubious damp patches on our doorstep.

We hope that the outcome of The Licensing Committee Full Review Hearing will help to preserve this improvement in our quality of life.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
Blatchington Road

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 October 2016 12:50
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Trek Nightclub, [REDACTED] Blatchington Road, Seaford

I have received a letter from Maria Caulfield regarding the suspending of the licence for the Trek Club.

For the 1st time since I moved into my flat [REDACTED] have not been woken up in the early hours of Saturday and Sunday morning by people walking past on their way home. Previous to that I would be woken by people shouting (sometimes quite aggressively at each other), singing, and one time it sounded like someone had a car horn that they were sounding.

The area around the Trek Club now has a lot more residential properties (as Church buildings have been converted over to living spaces), and a new building which will house 36 flats by Tesco's is being put up. I think that this needs to be taken into account when the licence is looked into.

Kindest Regards
[REDACTED]

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

BELL, Steve

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 October 2016 19:19
To: BELL, Steve
Subject: Trek Nightclub

Dear Mr Bell,

I am writing in answer to a letter from Maria Caulfield, regarding the suspension of the *Trek* Nightclub's licence. I was very grateful to receive the letter, not just because it carried such welcome news, but because I'm happy to have the opportunity to relate my feelings on the issue.

May I first say how pleasant the last two weekends have been without the usual disturbance from the nightclub!

My daughter and I [REDACTED] and every weekend we witness loud and disruptive behaviour from people leaving the *Trek*. Unfortunately, they seem to use [REDACTED] as a sort of "half-way house" on their way home after a night of drinking, and in the early hours of the morning, we are treated to screaming matches, fist fights and occasionally a few (off-key) choruses of "You'll Never Walk Alone".

Worse, many of the unwelcome performers apparently mistake the [REDACTED] for a public toilet. Once, a particularly drunk man broke the [REDACTED] windows.

This behaviour happens, without fail, every weekend and can continue for well over an hour. For me, this is a nuisance. But for my daughter, who often works early mornings on weekends, it is much more than an inconvenience - it's a nightmare.

To add insult to injury, last year the *Trek* opened on Christmas Eve, meaning that we were woken, very unmerrily, at 3am on Christmas morning.

We were both overjoyed when we heard that the *Trek's* licence had been suspended, and can only hope that the decision will be made to close the nightclub permanently. I'm sure that the relief would be widespread.

I am confident that this matter will be swiftly and suitably resolved, and look forward to hearing the outcome.

With Thanks,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CHICHESTER Road

SEAFORD.

EAST SUSSEX.

BN25. [REDACTED]

2. Oct. 2016.

Dear maria caulfield. mp.

I am sorry it is very late. due to
on Sept 11. I could not sleep every Saturday
my husband and we went away to family
for weeks. when we came home and since
we have very good rights. ~~we hope~~

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

