

HAVANA 61 CHARMINSTER ROAD BOURNEMOUTH

REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

(1)

19.10.24 @ 13:51

My children and I moved to Charminster in July after living in Poole for 14 years.

We left the very quiet neighbourhood of Oakdale following an eviction notice.

Living in Charminster has been radically different. Living so close to a main road was not by choice but rather the only property we managed to let after months of looking.

I live in one of the streets off Charminster road very close to the Havana night club.

Between around 4:30 and 5:30 am at weekends (Friday, Saturday) those who have attended the club spill out onto the streets inebriated shouting, fighting, screaming or talking in the street very loudly under my window for 5 to 20 minutes at a time.

I have also looked out of the window after being woken up at 5am to find someone using my driveway as a public toilet shielding themselves with the hedge to relieve themselves.

My daughter attends Summerwood campus, a SEND school on Northoft road again off of Charminster road close to the Havana club.

On the walk to school last Friday morning we had to navigate around a large puddle of vomit.

I have to wear ear plugs at night not to get woken up at the weekend. My teenage son whose bedroom also faces the street close to the club frequently complains about being woken up (he does not like wearing ear plugs) and has said that he feels unsafe in this neighbourhood because of it.

Last night actually I went to bed very late and dropped off in front of the TV in bed. I woke up with my ear plugs in my hand, I had forgotten to put them in.

I was awoken by the most hideous screams, it sounded like someone was being murdered around 5am. It did not sound like someone messing around or being just drunk and silly or drunk and disorderly. It sounded like someone (female) having a crazy amount of pain inflicted on her or who received the news that someone had died.

Honestly I felt I ought to call the police or check the person was safe but I just went to the toilet, put my ear plugs in and crashed back to sleep...

These noises/disturbances are very acute and loud always around 4:30 to 5:30 am Friday and Saturday.

I often hear it when I get up in the night to use the toilet as I take my ear plugs off.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you need to contact me with any questions.

Regards

(2)

19.10.24 @ 12:45

I have lived on the road opposite for two years and there is constantly issues regarding this location such as loud music to the point me and my child can't sleep but main issues is people coming out of this location shouting arguing and starting fights I've even had to call the police previously due to people that have come out of this location shouting arguing and then causing hard to people it has been getting worse the last two years I feel that it will continue to do so if this licence isn't reviewed many thanks

(3)

20.10.24 @ 15:46

This out of control place should be closed down immediately!! Every weekend there is on going trouble fighting on the streets glasses and bottles thrown across the streets even had fighting outside my house how ... [not complete]

(4)

20.10.24 @ 10:34

I am expressing my concerns for the above premise license for Havana nightclub, Charminster Road

I am a resident who lives within the first 5 houses in Malmesbury park Road, directly opposite Havana nightclub.

I have witnessed on many occasions groups of people outside the nightclub in the early hours of the morning, shouting/ fighting/ general noise nuisance.

Many occasions people are stood in the road (Charminster Road)

Due to the current licence which I believe is 5am, many people congregate at the top of Malmesbury park road.. again very loud... many fights (recently there have been 2 police incidents) I believe have stemmed from people leaving Havana nightclub.

I believe the licence needs to be changed to earlier hours i.e 12-2am

People vomiting outside my house / fighting directly outside.. vandalism or cars / property next door when it was vacant / building work going on/ smashed bottles / empty cream canisters on the road ..

Although this cannot be stopped completely.. if the licence were changed to earlier times it would perhaps elevate the problem of people doing this at 4am/5am in the morning

Regards

Resident Malmesbury Park Road

(5)

22.10.24 @ 12:22

Dear Sir/Madam

We live on Malmesbury Park Road but would like to remain anonymous because of intimidation.

We have suffered at least 15 years of lack of sleep because of Havana night club staying open until 5am.

We have suffered from Havana club goers directly outside the club and with shutters open in the summer, shouting, screaming and fighting as many have had a lot to drink.

We have seen Havana club goers using laughing gas before going into Havana club. We have seen Havana club goers using laughing gas and getting in their cars and driving off.

There is always some kind of altercation going on outside Havana club.

We have seen the Police called to Havana club many times over the years.

We have seen Havana club goers acting very aggressively and we have witnessed Havana club goers assaulting each other outside Havana club with weapons being shown and used.

We have witnessed many arguments outside Havana club.

Over the years the music from Havana club has been very loud disturbing our sleep hundreds of times.

Our mental and physical health has suffered detrimentally due to a lack of sleep and not being able to function during the day. Havana club has made our life a misery.

Yours Faithfully

Malmesbury Park Road Resident

(6)

22.10.24 @ 20:57

I have recently moved to the area and since I moved almost every Saturday and Sunday morning due to late licensing of Havana(Bar) until 5am in the morning extreme Anti Social behaviour is going on. Which it wakes me, my wife and my boys up between 3am and gone past 5am with extreme screams and shouting and fights.

Because all the other bars close early so they move onto Havana as they are still open. I strongly believe in a highly residential area a bar should not be open till that late in the morning.

They are highly drunk, intoxicated and unaware of the disturbance they are causing to the locals that need to go to work the next day and as a security I feel sorry that they have to put up with all the fights going on outside the Bar which I think they can't be bothered or they don't want to risk their own life for some irresponsible people.

There have been glass bottle stabbing, urinating, drug dealing outside the premises and in the area. Which I believe it needs tough decisions has to be taken by the Local Authority Before something else bad happens.

It is Horrible to see every time I pick up a local news Paper and on social media knowing that my family lives there makes me feel unsafe and it's extremely worrying what the future of next young generation in the area going to be if nothing is done. please Take this matter Serious as I'm worried about my families mental health and safety. kind

(7)

24.10.24 @ 09:44

I write in response to the license review for Havana Wine Bar.

I'm a resident on Malmesbury Park Road and live in close proximity to the venue.

We have lived here for 5 years during which time we have observed a number of incidents that we believe are a result of the frankly ludicrous opening hours of Havana Wine Bar. Incidents we've witnessed include :

- noise disruption pretty much every Saturday night, which is especially bad in the Summer when closing windows is not an option.
- Violence ranging from small fights to large scale brawls in the middle of the street.
- Examples of other behaviour such as urinating in people's driveways, littering and drug taking/dealing.

I understand that not all of these incidents are necessarily within Havana's control , but they are nearly always involving their patrons. This is further evidenced by the fact that alot of these incidents seem to occur after 4am, when it is the only establishment open in the area.

To me there is no logical reason for such a ridiculous closing time of 5am. Charminster is a highly populated residential area and the bar is mere metres away from people trying to sleep and go about their day to day lives.

The noise and trouble we have seen have led us to conclude that Charminster is not a place we want to raising our young child and as such will be seeking to relocate.

I hope this license review goes towards making Charminster a safer and more peaceful place.

Kind regards

(8)

24.10.24 @ 16:45

Sharon.Carr-Brown@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

I am writing as a ward Councillor for Queen's Park and Charminster to support Dorset Police's application for a review of Havana Wine Bar's licence on the basis that the premises is not complying with the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder.

I would go further and add that there is evidence that this establishment is also failing to promote public safety and prevent public nuisance.

There is a cumulative impact on the local community and businesses as people lose confidence that they will be safe and the area is degraded by the effects of drunk people on the streets to all hours and the behaviour that comes with that. It is entirely inconsistent with a predominantly residential area and local high street set up. This is not the town centre and should not resemble it.

This is the second time in 20 months that the Police have had cause to ask for the licence to be reviewed and it's not clear that the conditions agreed in February 2023 are currently being met. Those conditions are there to help ensure the premises abides by the three licensing principles outlined above. If they are not being met, it follows that the licensing conditions aren't either.

The current review was prompted by a very disturbing incident that occurred on September 21st that involved a fight that emanated from Havana Wine Bar and ended up with someone being 'bottled' across the road, causing sections of Charminster and Nortoft Roads to be cordoned off by the police. This is not what local people want to wake up to and it calls into question the ability of Havana's staff to control incidents within the premises and to ensure there's no crime and disorder spilling onto the street. This incident is clearly a threat to public nuisance and threatens public safety as it continued outside the bar.

There is also video from the weekend of 6/7th September 2024 at 3am of a large crowd outside Havana and shouting and screaming that can clearly be heard some distance down nearby residential roads. The noise disturbed the resident and brought her out of her house to see what was going on. You can see from the video just how far down the road she lives. She doesn't live right on the corner, she's more like 50-100m away.

All the businesses along this stretch of high street have people living above them. In addition, eight residential roads branch off this short section. This is the densest housing in our ward and some of the densest in Bournemouth. It is entirely incompatible with the residential profile of this area to have a bar open until 5am. I would suggest that anything past midnight is already pushing what is acceptable in such a strongly residential area.

On a recent engagement event, we learnt from businesses around this venue that they are fed up with the aftereffects of antisocial behaviour and crime associated with it – whether it's cleaning up the litter in the morning or police tape after an incident that makes people fearful of the area. It is not conducive to feeling welcomed or safe in an area when large crowds are gathered and people are shouting and being aggressive.

Finally, I recently had some case work from a local resident who catches the bus to work very early in the morning. She told me how she's run into people still drunk in the street, how the road is untidy and how she feels unsafe walking to the bus stop. She can't link this directly to Havana but it is the venue open the latest and the one with the greatest concerns

attached to it in terms of respecting the terms of its licence and so it certainly contributes to this deteriorating profile of the area.

Cllr Sharon Carr-Brown

(9)

24.10.24 @ 19:53

Alasdair.keddie@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

I am writing as one of the councillors for Queen's Park & Charminster, following contact from a number of residents who live near this premises. I welcome this opportunity for residents of my ward to have their voices heard and to share their experiences.

On Saturday 31st August, I received reports from residents living on Malmesbury Park Road regarding ongoing late night disturbances relating to Havana night club on Charminster Road. They informed me that this was a regular occurrence for them on Friday and Saturday nights and that it is causing them significant distress and disruption. They noted that the disturbances were at their worst around 5am, with customers leaving Havana and congregating loudly outside the venue while in an intoxicated state.

There are a large number of families who live nearby, in the flats above the retail units on Charminster Road, and the residential streets adjacent to Charminster Road.

2 households have described how they have had to move their bedrooms to the rear of their houses to try and avoid the disturbances. A young couple informed me that they wanted to start a family but were concerned that the late night noise from the premises opposite would have a negative effect on their ability to raise a child. Another family have recently sold their house, citing the frequent disturbance from the venue as a contributing factor in their decision. Other residents have described having their sleep being disturbed and impacts on their physical and mental health.

There is a general feeling from households nearby that 5am is too late for a premises operating in a largely residential area.

One resident agreed to keep an anti-social behaviour diary to log the disturbances going forward. They also began recording photos and videos on the occasions when they were being woken up in the early hours of the morning.

The following weekend at around 3am on Sunday 8th September, immediately outside Havana, there was a loud argument that escalated into a group of people fighting. The neighbourhood policing team described this as drunk and disorderly behaviour and a potential public order offence. A resident recorded a substantial amount of footage of the altercation (video available).

On the 14th September at around 1:15am residents reported another loud altercation outside the venue.

On the 21st September at 5am, residents reported a loud disturbance that began outside Havana as they were closing. This escalated into serious violence with a man being bottled in the neck. The following morning, Charminster Road was taped off with police and

forensics teams in attendance. Several businesses were unable to open on their busiest day of the week. Footage of this incident was also captured by residents (video available).

Since the major incident on the 21st September, residents are still experiencing late night disturbances, particularly when customers are leaving the premises in the early hours of the morning. The front door opens directly into the club which causes loud music to be heard every time the door is opened.

I note that a previous license review of Havana was carried out in 2022 following similar circumstances. This makes me question whether the management are serious about upholding the licensing principles at this premises if we have reached this point again.

Charminster used to be a vibrant and welcoming night time destination, appealing to a broad range of families, students and visitors to the area. Now it is gaining a reputation for being unsafe and somewhere to be avoided. Continued incidents of this kind only serve to further damage its reputation and reduce footfall for businesses in the area.

I would ask the licensing sub-committee to give appropriate weight to the representations received from residents who have a right to live peacefully in their homes.

Yours Sincerely,

Cllr Alasdair Keddie

Queen's Park & Charminster

(10)

24.10.24 @ 23:46

I am a local resident to the above nightclub and I want to register my concerns regarding the licensing of the venue.

I am in my early 20's and live with another girl of the same age, we have witnessed a multitude of fights, incidents and disruptions that all stem directly from Havana. We live within sight of the venue, and can hear their music well into the early hours at full volume which, at 3am, becomes extremely infuriating. For our own safety, we do not leave the house alone when Havana is open at night, and if we do have to leave we will stay on the other side of the road and try to keep as far away from the club *and* its patrons that are frequently shouting and fighting outside; something which also gets no response from the door staff of Havana - that is *when they are actually watching the outside of the venue* and not just waiting inside ignoring the commotion. We have even tried to call the club to tell them that their door staff are not doing anything - the phone was never answered.

Our driveway is constantly littered with bottles and 'Nos' canisters from patrons of Havana, we have also had people come onto the driveway to *relieve themselves* before returning to the nightclub, as well as watching clearly drunk drivers go from the club and then proceed to get into their car and start driving - with no concern or interest from the door staff and security, even when pedestrians nearly get hit.

A particularly defining example of this was the early hours of Christmas Eve 2023, when a man was bottled in-front of the bus stop after frequenting Havana. I was woken up (as usual on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday night) to the commotion and emergency services

arriving, and then a forensic team later that morning. This was not the first, to last, time that this has happened.

I can appreciate that Charminster road is a lively place, and any other day of the week I would agree! But from the moment that the doors of Havana open, Charminster becomes an unruly and dangerous place. And for two young women living alone, that is something that troubles us deeply. I could continue to go over multiple occasions and instances when we have been disturbed, but it is such a regular occurrence that it has become just another part of our week, and experience lining opposite the nightclub.

The 4 weeks in January last year or the year before, when Havana was temporarily closed, was the most peaceful time we have had since moving in here in 2021. And then it opened again with a vengeance and returned to the normal chaos almost instantly; with no respect or regard for the residents surrounding the club - And yet Saxo, the bar next door to Havana, seems to manage their clients and patrons without issue.

Thank you for taking the time to look in to the licensing for this bar, I know that many of the other families living here have been campaigning and trying to get something done for years, and it seems a shame that it is really taking this long for something to be done; how many stabbings, fights and attacks both inside and outside of Havana will it take for something to be done?

Yours sincerely and with great interest in something **finally** being done about this,

(11)

23.10.24 @ 22:57 (SUPPORT)

Today I received a letter about to complain the night club next to my house.

But personally I don't have any feeling about this club making any noise or effect to my family. I happy our location have kind of this entertainment for people make city life. Since Covid we suffer from long time "dead city" life, I don't feel anything wrong have a club in a city main road, charminster road is famous from international food selection, after dinner go for a drink is really convenient.

Also I feel most neighbours complain because someone tell them to do so, same as today someone gave me the letter and suggested me do complain.

So, my opinion is, never mind, we can have this club in this location.

If you really want do something make our life more beautiful, try reduce the homeless and drug dealers.

Regards

Malmesbury Park Road