

APPENDIX D

To whom it may concern.

I'm writing this e-mail to object to the licensing hours off Banksy Bar. I have lived in Ross Street for almost 30 years. Always loved the central location to shops. But past couple of years have been a nightmare. Starting with Annie's Bar and it's loud music and late night revellers. Having always worked wkends too then going to work on a few hours sleep because of the noise is not on. So when I read about the late night hours of new Bar. I am not happy at all. At 60 years of age and working and paying my taxes. And if any of councillors would like to spend a weekend living near Bar and what we have to put up feel free. I'm not objecting to the Bar just it's late opening hours and loud music. Why is entrance door not on main road? Instead of side street. I STRONGLY OBJECT TO THE OPENING HOURS OFF THIS BAR.

Yours sincerely

Yvonne Jones

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 8:10 pm

Mrs Yvonne Jones

[REDACTED], Widnes, Halton [REDACTED]

ACCESS TIMES AND PREFERRED CONTACT METHOD (PREMISES):

E-mail preferred)

Objections to Banksey's Bar opening in Ross Street, Widnes, Cheshire.

Jane Hargreaves,

[REDACTED] Cheshire, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] / 31/07/2023

I have lived in Ross Street for 33 years and I am aware that there has always been a bar at the bottom of our street. When it was Tony's Bar it was a lounge bar where people dropped in on there way on to pubs/clubs further up or down the street. I cannot recall any issues with Tony's Bar he was a lovely man who respected our street. When the building became Annie's Bar it became a nightmare of issues for the residents of Ross Street the owners were not friendly or respectful. We had to resort to continuously complaining to the local council about noise levels, public safety, intimidation, littering of bottles and used condoms, open drug dealing, fighting/arguments. I would often go to work as a nurse on little or no sleep due to noise issues. I am aware that other residents had the same experience and now have concerns about this happening again which would leave us no choice other than to continuously complain to our local council bodies once again. I live at the top of the street and experienced all the above issues from Annie's Bar it must be difficult for residents living nearer to the bar.

The residents of Ross Street and Saxon Terrace do not want any animosity we just want to go about our lives in the relative peace that we have now anything else will have a direct impact on our mental health and wellbeing.

Following the closure of Annie's Bar our street has returned to a normal residential street with little noise or disturbance. I am concerned at the prospect of having a bar at the bottom of our street following the issues that Annie's Bar previously caused for the residents of Ross Street.

Main concerns for objection are:

Increased noise level from live music/karaoke, audience participation.

Bar open 7 days a week from early in the day until early hours of the morning.

Taxi's dropping/picking customers off until early hours of the morning.

Increased footfall in our street where customers once intoxicated have no regard for our street or its residents – vomiting/urinating/sitting and leaning on our cars, talking, and chatting loudly as they walk up our street.

Open drug dealing in the street outside the bar as we experienced with Annie's Bar as you walked down to local shops you often feared confrontation from people under the influence of drugs or alcohol or both.

Increased litter/ beer bottles left outside your residence for you to pick up and throw away. Used condoms from people having sex in the entry at the top of the street.

Residents are often up early for work following sleepless nights from disturbances as described above.

Thank you for your time,

Jane

Jane Hargreaves

Widnes
23 July 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Bankseys Bar, Ross Street, Widnes.

I am writing to object to the licencing application that Bankseys Bar have recently submitted to the Council on the grounds of The prevention of public nuisance and The protection of children from harm.

My objection to the application is as follows;

The building is not very big, essentially it is the size of a small shop and is situated in **a residential street**. All the doors to the building, including 2 small windows open up into **a residential street**.

All noise, from customers or music from the bar will be heard by residents of Ross Street and Saxon Terrace. This cannot be avoided as the business relies heavily on getting lots of customers through the doors to make money and unfortunately noise is a product of that.

Whilst I acknowledge that the bar is under new ownership it is unfair, of me, to suggest that the residents of Ross Street and Saxon Terrace will be subject to the same extreme noise disturbance that was experienced, between 2019 and 2022, when the previous bar was open. However, by the very nature that it is still a pub, open long hours in a **residential street**, and the business is the same as it was previously then its highly likely that noise will be generated and this is more noise than we have had in the last 12 months since the previous bar shut.

If the bar opens it will lead to more foot and vehicle traffic as customers travel up and down the street to visit the bar. This will result in noise and disturbance to residents particularly well into the early hours of the morning over a weekend. Residents have to get up and go to work so should be able to expect to have a good nights sleep.

There is no dedicated car park to the pub. Parking is already a nightmare for residents in Ross Street and Saxon Terrace and it is difficult for residents to find a parking space during normal times. Customers who arrive by car will try and find a space somewhere close to the pub as they wont use the free car parks further away, Wherever they manage to park when they return to their vehicle there will be some noise disturbance from people talking and car doors slamming at whatever time they leave the pub.

Those customers who smoke will congregate outside the pub, as the pub does not have any outdoor space within the pub grounds, and they will be talking to one another, and as the night progresses the voices will get louder causing a disturbance to residents.

There will be constant noise disruption as people come and go into the bar, opening and closing the door, which is situated on a **residential street**. This noise disruption will increase as the evening progresses as people flock to a pub that plays music and will affect residents mainly around being able to go to bed to sleep.

As the building does not hold many people there is a risk, as happened previously, that customers won't be allowed in as the bar is full to capacity. There is a potential then for people to queue outside of the pub while waiting to enter the pub, making noise, or even the risk of a fight breaking out between people waiting in the queue, with the police called generating even more noise. Again resulting in disturbed sleep for residents or not being able to go to sleep at all before the bar closes as that's the only time it will be quiet. Totally unacceptable.

The pavement is not wide enough for other people to walk past the pub on their way home so are forced to walk in the road to get past which is a risk.

Noise at the end of the night when customers leave the premises at closing time stand around talking whilst waiting for taxis to get home. At the weekend this is going to be later than 1.30am. Then there will be additional noise, after 1.30am when the bar staff empty the beer/wine bottles into the large trade bins in the entry behind the pub disturbing residents sleep (if they are lucky enough to have managed to get to sleep). It is likely to be around 2am before staff then leave the building and then there is the noise of shutters being pulled down. Only then will it go quiet and residents will finally be able to go to sleep.

Everyone knows that when people drink they become loud and as the evening progresses and they continue to drink the noise levels increase which then causes a public nuisance.

All the above points affect the lives and comfort of every resident and we all have a right to a level of peace and quiet.

I am also concerned about the likelihood of increased litter in the surrounding area of the bar and across the road from the bar. I litterpick Ross Street and surrounding areas, as a volunteer, and have done this for a number of years. When the previous bar was open there were lots of cigarette butts, cigarette packets, old lighters etc discarded outside it. Besides that residents were regularly faced with stepping over vomit, broken glass in the road and on the pavement, used condoms, ladies underwear, used sanitary towels etc. Residents also witnessed people, on a couple of occasions coming out of the bar and going into the alleyway to urinate. On one occasion a resident found a woman crouching down urinating against the tyre of their car. Disgusting! Whilst I cannot say, for definite, that this will happen if this bar opens there is a strong likelihood that some or all of the above will happen at some time as you can't change the fact that people will be drinking and do some things when they've had a drink that they wouldn't dream of doing when they are sober.

This will leave the street looking unsightly and reflects badly on the residents of the street. People turning up to work at the estate agents in the area at the bottom of Ross Street have to wade through the rubbish and vomit which is unacceptable..

I also feel that it is important to provide the Committee with background information in relation to the building that the pub is located in.

Historically the building has been a wine bar for approximately 30 years. Initially it was called Tonys Wine Bar and all the time it was open it never caused a public nuisance. The only music you may have occasionally heard was a bit of Spanish guitar music on a Sunday afternoon. It wasn't open late and closed at a reasonable time. It was definitely a very different kind of bar than the one that came next.

Unfortunately the wine bar then became a cocktail bar (approximately August 2019) called Annie's Bar. The new owner applied to the Council to extend the opening hours of the pub and it was approved as there were no objections from the residents. This was because none of the residents were aware of the application as the notice that the bar had to display had been displayed on a lamppost on the opposite side of the road to the bar. How convenient! Residents were only aware that the application had been approved when their lives were blighted by the noise from the bar. Residents were unable to go to sleep most weekends due to the noise that came from the bar and its customers. **It was a pub trying to be a club** and was definitely sited in the wrong part of Widnes.

Environmental Health Officers were involved, from the 1st day the bar was open and their involvement continued until the day the bar closed, issuing noise diaries etc. I live 14 doors away from the bar and I was very much affected by the long opening hours of Annie's bar. The impact on the people who lived closer to the bar was a lot worse. I used to dread weekends as I knew I wouldn't be able to go to sleep before the pub had closed and the staff had left which was around 2am, My mental health was affected which was not very nice. My grandchildren could not stay over because they couldn't get to sleep due to the noise generated by the bar. I wasn't the only resident affected and it was a very stressful time for everyone involved.

In addition during the time the bar was open several residents were forced to move out of Ross Street due to the strain it was having on their overall wellbeing as well as their mental health. It should never had come to that as they were members of our community,

Although I do not know what the impact of Bankseys bar will have on the residents of Ross Street, my fear is that we, the residents, will be subject to something similar to what we were subject to for 3 years during the time that the previous bar was open.

What I do believe is that a bar, playing a variety of music, including the possibility of live music (as per the licence application) and open till **12,30am Monday to Thursday** and **01.30am on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday** has no place in a **residential street**. Residents in Ross street and Saxon Terrace have a right to expect a level of peace and quiet and certainly should be able to go to bed at a time they chose without the risk of having disrupted sleep due to the noise generated from the bar.. Residents have to get up and go to work, so need a restful nights sleep, and children should not have to go to school feeling tired because their sleep has been disturbed by the noise generated by the bar.

Whilst I understand that the bar is a new business and wants it to be a success I believe the Licencing Committee need to weigh up the risk of Public nuisance the bar will cause in a **residential area**.

I do not want history to repeat itself and residents end up in the same situation we were in between 2019 and 2022. Both myself and my neighbours would like to continue living our lives in the peace and quiet we have enjoyed since the previous bar closed. I believe that by refusing the licence application it will prevent any risk of public nuisance and will protect children living in the street from harm

I hope that the committee considers all objections/concerns that they have received in relation to this from residents who live in Ross street and Saxon Terrace and take into account the issues that the residents have previously had to endure when a bar is allowed to open for such long hours in a **residential area**.

Kind regards

Lyn Fletcher

Hello! I live on same street with the Banksey Bar and definetly i'm against to opening this bar. I wake-up every morning at 5 o'clock to go to work and with the last bar who was opened on the same place was very hard to keep my job because i sleep like 3 hours per night because the music was so loud and people screaming so hard. When the bar was opened was very hard to find a place to park my car because the street was full with others cars. Is very dangerous for my kids because drunks people was all the time on my street. They scrach my car,they vomiting front of my door.And almost every night the police was coming to split the fight because they was fighting almost every night,smashing glasses and other things.And are many many others problems if you let them to open this bar,so please do not let them to open the Banksey Bar. Thank you!

Hi! I against of opening the Banksey's Bar and this are the reason why: PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE and PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM.

Hi kim,

My name is Dawn Owen and i live on Ross street very close to the venue, i realise this is a new bar and can only write about the previous bar (Annies bar).

My experience with the annies bar was enough to put me off living in this street from the moment it opened and i was very happy when it closed and to hear another bar may be opening in its place for longer hours including sunday night and is asking for a live music licence makes me physically sick.

I work from 5.50am every morning apart from weekends the previous bar kept me awake to the early hours every time it was open.

There were obvious drug activities going on, the door to the bar was open the majority of the time the customers were all over the road smoking being very loud using my doorway as a toilet as well as using the alleyways for all kinds of dubious behaviour the police were called numerous times the whole thing sounded like a street party every night it was open.

I understand you have to make a decision but in my opinion that premises is barley big enough for a shop so to consider opening a live music bar on a residential street is madness and if i do have to give up my job because of this i will be taking action to see what my legal options are.

Many Thanks, Dawn Owen

Dear Mrs Hesketh

I wish to lodge an objection against the opening of Banksey's Bar on the corner of Albert Road and Ross Street.

I don't see why it has to open until 1.00am on a Sunday. That's providing there are no lock ins meaning customers will leave later than 1.30am. Local people are up for work or school on a Monday morning, which they won't be happy about if they have been kept awake half the night. The doors are open especially through the summer, because there are no windows for ventilation. As far as I know there is no rear exit for customers to leave by if there is an emergency. We have to close our back windows because of the noise which will be worse if they have live music. We had all these issues with the Imperial.

Customers stand outside the bar smoking leaving the pavement littered with cigarette ends. It can be intimidating when walking past to go to the shops. It must be worse for parents walking past with young children listening to bad language on the way past.

Customers walk along our road talking loudly, shouting or fighting. Also there is the question of under age drinkers. Kids make more noise on the way home, as we know from when Top Of The Town was open. Taxis use our road as a rat run adding to the noise levels. People sometimes stop and urinate by the entry gates or between parked cars.

We have had drunken people lying outside our house at 7am in the morning. Each car we have had has been damaged. Our present one has a scratch from the bonnet to the boot on the passenger side.

This bar changes hands on a regular basis. Each time it changes hands it gets ripped out and refitted so we have to put up with all the mess from that. Skips parked outside the bar for weeks on end.

This time round there was the top for a refrigerated unit left on the pavement for a few weeks. A big trip hazard for a person with sight issues.

Yours sincerely

Jeanette Everitt

Due to the protection of my two small children I object to the proposed opening hours of bankseys bar. As a father with two children in the house I am concerned that it will increase the chances of drunken behaviour/fights. The nuisance of having screaming/ shouting gangs of adults walking up and down our street in the middle of the night causing upset and waking the children is a big concern to us. We have previously had cars damaged in the street from passers by coming home late at night, drunk and behaving in a disorderly way.

Hi Kim

I would like to register my strong objection to the Banksey's bar recent application to have live music, recorded music and supply of alcohol.

I live very close to the venue and have personally seen a lot of unsociable behaviour from people drinking at Annie's bar, which it was previously.

We have seen fighting, shouting, screaming, loud music (I could hear the music over the radio in my bedroom), drug use in the street and even people urinating behind the estate agents. This plus thumping music at midnight or flashing blue lights outside my window (when police have previously attended), is not acceptable.

I have MS and I also have a full time job so noise and disorderly behaviour has a negative impact on my ability to sleep.

This residential area is not a place for an establishment like that and it is not fair on the people that have to live here.

If you need any further info, please let me know.

Kind regards

Concerned resident

Widnes, [REDACTED]

The Licensing Officer,
Licensing Department,
Halton Borough Council,
Municipal Building,
Widnes.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am shocked to learn of the licensing application for the former Annie's Bar, now called Banksey's Bar. This establishment is right on top of residential housing and is clearly not a suitable building for a music and late bar venue, as history shows.

The building is very small. People open the door for ventilation and to smoke, spilling out on to the narrow pavement creating their own noise as well as allowing loud noise from within to spill out to cause even greater disturbance. This is based on my experience of the misery this venue previously caused.

There are parking issues in residential streets, fighting, urinating in the street, loud aggressive behaviour at the venue and on leaving. Customers block the pavements, so endangering public safety. The proposed ridiculously late hours of this place (including all day long) do not end when customers leave as staff will be clearing and closing up some time after that.

This proposal contravenes our right to peace and security as well as disturbing rest and sleep which damages health for older people like me but also those who are tired getting up for work. Children who are disturbed can also be made unwell as well as the impact on general wellbeing and educational attainment.

I appeal to you to not subject us to this constant disruption in our own homes where we are supposed to feel comfortable, safe and secure.

Yours faithfully,

Dennis Leigh (Mr)

[REDACTED] (MR)

[REDACTED]
Widnes, [REDACTED]

**The Licensing Officer,
Licensing Department,
Halton Borough Council,
Municipal Building,
Widnes.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am shocked to learn of the licensing application for the former Annie's Bar, now called Banksey's Bar. After the horrendous experiences from the last time this bar operated, we hoped to have had a permanent respite from the disruption it caused to our neighbourhood. This establishment is right on top of residential housing and is clearly not a suitable building for a music and late bar venue.

The building is very small, with limited access and ventilation. People open the door for ventilation and purpose of smoking, spilling out on to the narrow pavement creating their own noise as well as allowing the already loud noise in the small space, to spill out to cause even greater disturbance. This is not based on guesswork but actual experience of the misery this venue previously caused.

Parking issues in residential streets, fighting, urinating in the street, loud aggressive behaviour at the venue and on leaving. The blocking of pavements, so endangering public safety.

The constant loud noise disrupting our right to peace and security as well as disturbing sleep which is damaging to health for older people like me but also those who are tired getting up for work as well as the children who are disturbed, impacting on their health and educational attainment.

Please do not subject us to this constant disruption and disturbance in our own homes in which we are supposed to feel comfortable, safe and secure.

Yours faithfully,

June Leigh (Mrs)

[REDACTED] (mes)