

To: Royal Borough of Greenwich, Licensing Sub-Committee

From: Keith Tarrant

PARTNER


I am writing as the ~~husband~~ and representative of the licensee, Rita Hall of the Star and Garter public house, Old Woolwich Road. Historically, I have been responsible for the management of the pub and the staff generally refer to me on day to day issues. Accordingly I wish to make the following representations against the Interim Steps to suspend the licence with effect from 5 August 2021.

The facts of my involvement in the incident are as following:

- 1 I was telephoned by one of the staff on 1 August 2021 (I was not on the premises) at between 18.30 and 18.45 to report the incident. I was told that someone in the pub had phoned for an ambulance, that the ambulance staff had phoned the police before taking the victim to hospital, and that the police had attended the premises and my attendance that evening was not required.
2. The staff on duty told me that they did not see what happened. There was no fight and no disturbance to attract their attention. The first they were aware of the incident was when the victim went to the toilets because he was bleeding.
3. The statement that I have refused to name the perpetrator despite knowing his identity and having barred him from the premises is not correct. I do not know the identity of the perpetrator and I, nor anyone else, has barred anyone from the pub because the perpetrator's identity is not known.
4. I do not know the source of the information in the decision letter of 5 August that staff assisted the perpetrator because they have denied to me that they know his identity. This description of events in the decision letter was the first time I had heard it.
5. I cannot comment on the failure of customers to give information to the police as I was not on the premises at the time.
6. The licence has been held by the licensee for 21 years and in that time there has been no trouble of this nature. It is likely, therefore, that this is a one-off incident and does not signify a lack of proper management, a lack of control, or allowing public nuisance. On the contrary, the record suggests responsible management of the premises.
7. Finally, The Star and Garter is a small community pub which serves mainly local residents including the residents of the Trinity Hospital. It has provided an important local focal point and support system. Unfortunately, any further period of extended closure, given the difficulties already experienced during the earlier lockdown periods, may very possibly lead to permanent closure with the resultant loss of an important local amenity.

I hope these representations will carry sufficient weight to persuade the authority to lift the current suspension of licence.

Yours faithfully



~~Keith Tarrant~~

on behalf of the licensee

RITA HALL

