

**From:** Redacted <Redacted>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 10:24 AM

**To:** EVH Licensing <[EVH.Licensing@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:EVH.Licensing@swansea.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Redacted; Redacted; Redacted (Staff Cymorth yr Aelod | Member Support Staff) <Redacted >

**Subject:** Fwd: Formal objection regarding the licensing of The Storyteller Cafe & Bar, 40-42 Princess Way, Swansea, SA1 5AE

**CAUTION:** External email - Do not click links/open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe

Good morning

I would like to formally raise an objection regarding the licensing application of The Storyteller Cafe & Bar, 40-42 Princess Way, Swansea SA1 5AE.

I would like to object for the following reasons:

The prevention of crime and disorder - disorder has already been an issue at this venue, when it was granted a temporary license for a party on 3rd February 2023. There was absolutely no control of attendees by the venue, with attendees all over the pavement, with glasses, smoking in the Bicycle Hub. Public urination was also witnessed. This venue is both attached to and surrounded by residential apartments, and not only did party attendees cause a noise nuisance but they were taking glassware out of the venue, risking breakages which could lead to injury. The Bicycle Hub is not a smoking shelter, but partygoers were sat in there, dropping cigarette ends, and being very loud in general. A licensed venue has the potential to cause a rise in antisocial behaviour and criminality as there will more likely be excessive drunkenness. Antisocial behaviour in the form of public urination has already been witnessed, together with smoking where not allowed, and glassware being taken outside, together with noise disturbance. Alcohol consumption naturally leads to people talking a lot louder, shouting, swearing and singing, which will cause noise and public nuisance. There are no door staff at this venue, and when the venue has been opened on Saturdays under a temporary license, the same issues have been observed, with doors wide open, smokers congregating under private homes and in the bicycle hub, and glassware being taken outside.

Public safety - as stated above, party attendees were not being controlled, there were no door staff in attendance, and they were all over the pavement with glassware. This could very easily lead to breakages and serious injury, as this Urban Park area is frequented by small children on a daily basis.

The prevention of public nuisance - the opening private party caused a public nuisance, which I understand led to complaints from residents of surrounding homes. On Friday evening The Storyteller had their front doors wide open all evening, and had a very loud live band there. I live in Redacted, where there are 42 privately owned apartments, and there are also apartments in the same building as this new bar directly above, and behind the venue in Barons Court. There are also apartments across the road on College Street and opposite the Dragon Hotel. The noise from this venue was a ridiculously high level. With my apartment windows closed, I could hear every single word spoken and sung. It sounded as if the band was in the room with me, and even caused vibrations. There was loud shrieking and screaming all evening, from both inside the venue, and on the pavement outside, detailed above. There was absolutely no noise control in place.

The protection of children from harm - there are families living in all of the attached and surrounding residential buildings, including young children in the apartments directly above this venue. Children

should not be subjected to such loud volumes, and not only could this cause hearing damage, but sleep disturbance. In summary, this is a venue completely surrounded by residential properties, with a mix of residents. This will affect the community. This is a new venue and, although a certain amount of noise it to be expected in a city centre property, it should not be to the extent that it causes residents a noise disturbance. Personally I have lived in my property for over 9 years, and have never encountered issues such as this. There is another cafe bar close by called Zinco Lounge, which is also a larger venue, but there is never a noise issue from there. I question the suitability of the structure of this unit for such a business, as there appears to be no soundproofing, even if the doors had been kept closed. The entrance/exit of the venue is directly above and directly opposite apartments, in very close proximity to residences, there appears to be absolutely no control of customers spilling out with glassware, nor of the noise made by customers. This premises has never been used for a cafe and bar previously, it has always been used for retail. Surely door staff and signs asking customers to be respectful of residents would be appropriate. Residents wish, as should be able to, enjoy their homes and quality of life, without surrounding businesses disturbing them and having a detrimental impact on their home life.

Under The Environmental Protection Act 1990, residents are protected against noises that are found to cause a statutory noise nuisance affecting the health or interfering with the enjoyment of their homes. The noise witnessed on Friday 3rd February certainly did this. The Licensing Act 2003 stipulates that the activities of a licensable premises must prevent public nuisance. I have also attached photographs of how close this venue is to residential properties, housing families, small children and senior citizens. Please consider the hundreds of residents in this quiet, predominantly residential part of the city, and reflect on the detrimental impact this venue has had, and will continue to have, on our lives.

If necessary, I am happy to submit a written statement regarding 3rd February 2023, but the Licensing Team are already aware of this, as are the Noise Pollution Team.

Please advise if I need to do anything further at this stage.

I await acknowledgement of this objection, and a response.

Regards,

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**From:** Redacted <Redacted>

**Sent:** 20 March 2023 16:54

**To:** EVH Licensing <[EVH.Licensing@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:EVH.Licensing@swansea.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Redacted <Redacted>

**Subject:** Additional information to consider regarding the granting of a License to The Storyteller.

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Good evening

I have already submitted a formal objection regarding the granting of a license to The Storyteller Cafe on Princess Way, and would like to add the following for consideration please.

The venue is advertising itself as a party hire premises on social media. I have already submitted details of the disturbances caused by this venue's opening party, so this causes immense concern. This venue is attached to and surrounded by residential apartments, as I have detailed in my previous submissions. There are apartments directly above the venue, and I have already submitted photos to evidence just how close they are. In total, there are approximately 100 apartments in close proximity to this venue.

As you can read in my previous email objection submission the noise levels during the opening party were unbearable.

This is a quiet part of the city, with well established residential properties. Surely any business choosing to locate here needs to be respectful of residents? This business most certainly has not thus far.

The venue is small, with no soundproofing, and seems to permanently have the front doors wide open. It most certainly is not in a suitable location for loud music nor parties that will yet again cause distress to residents.

I urge the panel to actually visit the venue so that they can see for themselves how close homes are.

The Senydd have also been copied into this email.

Regards

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