



PC 5787 Wheeler
Reading Licensing Dept

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Gurung & Family Ltd
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Tel: 101 (07973231273)

Email:
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Sunday 22nd July 2018

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence Number: LP2002261

Premises: The Red Cow Inn

Premises Address: 56 Star Road, Caversham, Reading, RG4 5BE

To whom it may concern (PLH)

Dear Ms Sangita Gurung (DPS)

On Saturday 16th June 2018 at 00:10 hours I visited your premises with Mr Anthony Chawama from Reading Borough Council to ensure you are complying with the above premises licence.

During this visit I was assisted by the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) Sangita Gurung.

On arrival at the premises it was noted by officers that your premises licence allows for the sale of alcohol till 23:00 hours and should be open to the public only till 23:30 hours.

Although the door to the premises was closed officers could hear a number of persons within the premises and all of the lights could be seen as on.

Having knocked on the door it was opened by an Asian female whom let us into the premises and on entry a number of persons could be seen seated along the bar drinking alcohol.

A number of other males were also in the bar and walking around with pints of beer which they were consuming.

Other persons were in the pool area to the right of the bar playing pool.

The DPS stated that the persons were friends and staff, however it was apparent that this group of persons comprised of a few staff, some acquaintances and others

who were clearly members of the public that were on the premises and consuming alcohol from near full pint glasses.

One of the males that was within the pub approached officers on a number of occasions whilst he was carrying and consuming beer/lager from his pint glass and stated "I'M VERY DRUNK". This male smelt of intoxicating liquor, his eyes were glazed and speech slurred and he staggered as he walked. The male was clearly drunk and his statements to officers compounded the evidence.

The DPS stated that the male had been told to leave the pub but had kept coming back in and that he hadn't been served since last orders.

It is difficult for this statement to be believed as not only did this male have an almost full pint, but many others had very full glasses when we arrived which was over an hour after last orders should have been taken.

It is believed that the sale of alcohol was taking place on this occasion and that the majority of persons within the premises were there for the purposes of an unlicensed "lock in".

You are reminded that it is an offence to conduct unauthorised activity and it is a criminal offence contrary to Section 136 (1) of the Licensing Act 2003. To knowingly carry out unlicensed activity is an offence under section 136 (2) of the Licensing Act 2003.

An inspection was also carried out in relation to the premises licence and the conditions contained within it.

Below outlines the breaches of conditions:-

Public Safety page 8

Condition 1, 2 and 3 were not complied with.

Prevention of Public Nuisance page 8

Conditions 1 – 7, no due diligence could be provided to show compliance with any of these conditions.

With specific regard to condition 3 persons were observed outside the premises seated at a table smoking and drinking at approximately 23:40 hours on the evening of the visit.

In relation to condition 4, no signage was available.

Annex 3, conditions attached after a Hearing page 8

Condition 1 and 2 were in breach as drunk persons were found within the premises and no staff training could be provided to show due diligence; no policies were available or being implemented in relation to illegal use and supply of drugs.

In conclusion relating to the compliance with your licence conditions this premises was found to be in breach of the vast majority of conditions attached to this licence.

Furthermore, and of immediate concern was:-

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1. Lack of any staff training to support the licensing objectives, including signs of intoxication/ responsible retailing, age verification policy, drugs awareness, proxy purchasing, conflict resolution etc.
2. DPS did not know the four licensing objectives.
3. No written age verification policy or understanding of the premises policy even though a Challenge 25 poster was displayed.
4. No written authorisation list for the sale of alcohol.
5. No section 57 notice which was of specific importance as Part B of the licence was not displayed and Part A of the licence was only located by the DPS at the eleventh hour.
6. Lack of fire risk assessment.
7. CCTV system which the DPS could not operate and that potentially holds images for only two days.

In relation to this first visit and the identified issues set out above you are reminded that the people legally responsible for the premises under the Licensing Act 2003 are the premises licence holder and the designated premises supervisor.

Therefore, can you please ensure that all of the above points contained within this letter are rectified immediately.

On Friday 20th July 2018 between the hours of 23:30 and 00:00 observations were carried out from the front car park of your premises by an Officer of the Thames Valley Police and Reading Borough Council.

It was noted that a number of persons were seen to leave and re-enter the premises between 23:30 hours and 23:55 hours within time period where the premises must no longer be open to the public.

Furthermore at 23:55 hours a small group of males left the premises via the front entrance carrying pint glassware which contained liquid of the appearance of beer/lager.

The premises was observed closing, the lights turned out and staff leaving at 00:00 hours.

May I remind you that the hours the premises can be open to the public ceases at 23:30 hours and all members of the public should be removed from the premises prior to that time expiring.

Can I also please remind you that it is not an acceptable practice for members of the public to be allowed to leave the premises carrying opened containers of alcohol, especially pint glasses which apparently contained beer/lager/cider.

As well as the verbal request for CCTV relating to the first visit by Officers in June (which has yet to be provided) I am including with this letter a data protection request for evidence relating to the most recent observations in July 2018.

You shall be contacted in due course by the Licensing Authority and Thames Valley Police in relation to these matters.

However, should you wish to discuss the issues prior to that contact, please telephone me on the above number or contact the Reading Borough Council Licensing Enforcement Department.

Yours Faithfully

PC 5787 Simon Wheeler

Reading LPA Licensing Dept