

CHIEF CONSTABLE OF HUMBERSIDE POLICE

Applicant

-and-

TALE & SPIRIT GROUP LTD

Respondent

**STATEMENT OF
ALISON KATE SAXBY**

Introduction

1. My name is Alison Kate Saxby and I am a Licensing Officer in the Licensing Section of the Humberside Police based at Cromwell Road Police Station, Grimsby. I cover the county of North East Lincolnshire. I am under the direction and control of the Chief Constable of Humberside Police ('the Chief Constable'). My duties include consideration of the impact of crime and disorder and the Chief Constable's response to licensing matters.
2. I have been a Licensing Officer since April 2018, prior to which I was a Finance Assistant for 4 years, a Public Service Officer for 2 years and an Anti Social Behaviour Researcher for 2 ½ years. I have worked for Humberside Police for 10 years, and I am familiar with problems of alcohol related crime and disorder in both in my current and previous roles.
3. The Respondent, TALE AND SPIRIT GROUP LTD, is the applicant/ for the transfer etc. of the premises licence granted under Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003 ('the Act') in respect of the premises known as Spice of Life, situated at 8-12 Wellowgate, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire. Premises Licence PM000228 relates to the premises.

4. I make this statement in support of the Chief Constable's Objection to the transfer of the premises licence under Section 42 of the Licensing Act 2003 and is in addition to those papers already served on the authority. The information in this statement is either within my personal knowledge or is taken from files maintained by the Chief Constable.

Background

5. The Respondent is the applicant in respect of the Premise Licence, having applied for the transfer of the licence from Mr Mohammed Abdul SALIQUE & Mr Abdul SOMIR.
6. The premises licence currently permits the sale of alcohol and Late Night Refreshment on Sunday to Thursday 1200hrs to 1400hrs and 1700hrs to 0100hrs, and on Friday and Saturday 1200hrs to 1400hrs and 1700hrs to 0200hrs. There is a Non Standard timing for Christmas Day which allows licensable activity from 1200hrs to 1730hrs.
7. The licence is currently subject to 3 conditions in addition to those that are mandatory. They are listed in Annex 2 of the licence.
8. The premises licence is subject to a review hearing, scheduled for 19/01/2021, due to 2 Illegal workers being found on the premises during a visit by Immigration, and this being at least the third time that arrests have been made at the premises since 2008. Fines have been issued on these occasions to the business.

History

9. On 16th November 2020, Humberside Police were made aware that paperwork had been submitted for a review of the premises by

Immigration, due to illegal workers being found and arrested at the premises.

10. Humberside Police submitted a Representation to support the Immigration Service on 4th December 2020, due to the offence clearly undermining the Licensing Objectives, specifically The Prevention of Crime and Disorder.
11. The date for representations to be submitted closed on 14th December 2020.
12. On 16th December 2020, an application was received to transfer the premises licence in accordance with section 42 Licensing Act 2003, in favour of TALE AND SPIRIT GROUP LTD.
13. On the same day, an application was received to also vary the DPS. This was queried as to whether he would be at the premises or whether a manager would be appointed due to the DPS having an address in London, and it was confirmed he would be at the premises, but keeping the London address as a base. This application was subsequently accepted.
14. Enquiries revealed TALE AND SPIRIT GROUP LTD are currently the Premises Licence Holder for Arthurs House Gin Kitchen and Cocktail Lounge. The registered address is 39a Sea View Street, Cleethorpes, DN35 8EU.
15. The current Director listed on Companies House is [REDACTED] who was appointed on 26th July 2020. Previous to this, the Director was [REDACTED], who was appointed on 04th November 2019, when the company was incorporated, until 26th July 2020.

16. Previous to this change, the Premises licence holder was The Gin Pink Company Limited, which Companies House states had 1 Director, [REDACTED].
17. Mr [REDACTED] has been the Designated Premises Supervisor at the premises since the application was submitted in March 2018, and is still the main point of contact for the premises.
18. From Police research, it appears the Mr [REDACTED] is related to Mr Mohammed Abdul SALIQUE, one of the current Premises Licence Holders. It is stated that Mr [REDACTED] is the son of Mr SALIQUE. It is also reported that Mr SALIQUE has another son, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who is previously listed on Police Systems as the Restaurant Manager at Spice of Life, and is believed to still be the manager at the restaurant.
19. On 23rd December 2020, a letter was sent to Mr [REDACTED], Licensing Consultant for the Transfer application, to request proof regarding the lease for the business to Tale & Spirit Group, along with proof of funds, proof of transfer and proof that the previous owner no longer has involvement in the running of the premises. It was asked that these be provided by 4pm on 29th December 2020. (EXHIBIT AKS/01).
20. As of 6th January 2021, no information or evidence to confirm the business transfer has been received.

Submissions

21. The view of the Chief Constable is that there is insufficient evidence provided by the applicant to prove that the new premises licence holders will be independent of the previous owners. Given the repeated criminality regarding illegal workers at the premises, Humberside Police will not consider any application from any party

with a link to the current Premises Licence Holders, Mr SALIQUE or Mr SOMIR.

22. It is the view of the Chief Constable that should the licence be granted transferred to TALE AND SPIRIT GROUP LTD that the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, and potentially other objectives of the Licensing Act 2003 will be undermined. This is because it is not believed that they will have any involvement in the day to day running of the business, and is just being used to allow the premises to run as it has done for many years, with an alcohol licence.
23. No evidence has currently been provided, as requested, to show a legal transaction, lease or other agreement to confirm the legitimacy of the transfer.
24. The Chief Constable requests that the Licensing Committee consider the points made within this statement and asks that they refuse this application.

I believe the contents of this statement to be true.

Signed: 
Mrs Alison Saxby

Dated: 11/01/2021.....