

Appendix B

The Studio

Meeting 11.55am Monday 20th July 2009

Widnes Police Station

Present: -

Robin McLaughlin – DPS
Chris Carney – Licensing Enforcement
Paul Draycott – Licensing Officer

PD thanked RM for attending. RM explained that he had been in hospital for the past 3½ months, but was willing to discuss any issues that the police might have. RM indicated that he was not prepared to agree to certain things – mainly regarding door supervisors wearing the police issue Hi-Vis jackets. He pointed out that there was no requirement either under the Licensing Act 2003 or the PSIA Act 2001. All his door supervisors were issued with black uniform which had a ‘SECURITY’ logo in 3” high letters on the front and rear. The door supervisors are all employed via an agency, Select.

PD outlined the advantages of wearing the Hi-Vis jackets and following a further discussion RM declined to accept the offer.

A discussion took place regarding CCTV at the premises, specifically covering the front entrance and the beer garden. CC advised that although there is a town centre camera at the top of the street it was largely ineffective because of street furniture that blocked the line of sight from that camera.

RM stated that he was happy to place two additional cameras, one in the beer garden and one covering the front entrance. He would arrange for the work to take place as soon as he could. **(Action by RM)**

RM also stated that he was going to see Enterprise Inns the next day to ask them if he could surrender the remainder of his 12 years lease. There is no guarantee that they will agree and even if they accepted the surrender it would mean that RM would still be managing the premises for at least 6 – 8 weeks. He also pointed out that Enterprise would want to keep the premises open, put in a caretaker manager and a new door company. This would very probably result in the premises being even more problematic than currently. (New manager, new door team, lack of knowledge, short term aims). **(Action by RM to provide an update following the meeting.)**

Everyone agreed the importance of remaining in regular contact to ensure that any issues from either side can be addressed at the earliest opportunity.