

## Neil Chapple

---

**From:** Peter Malough  
**Sent:** 15 January 2024 14:25  
**To:** Sarah Bartle  
**Subject:** Review Application - Glynneath Football Club

Dear Sir / Madam

An application has been made by South Wales Police to Review the premises licence of Glynneath Football Club, 12 High Street, Glynneath, SA11 5BR.

The application outlines the reasons for this Review and why this affects the licensing objectives.

The premises is situated on the main road through Glynneath with residential properties surrounding it and has held a licence for many years. The existing licence holders are Glynneath Town Football Club Ltd who took over in February 2021 and the current Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is Mr Christopher Foote who took over in May 2021.

Reading the Review application it is clear the incidents that occurred during the end of October and beginning of November illustrate the failings of the licence holder and DPS to manage the premises properly. The recent spate of complaints resulted in issues at 3 consecutive events (21<sup>st</sup> October 2023, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023) all of which have been highlighted within the Review. The police also acknowledged that during these events customers (who were under 18) admitted they entered the premises without being challenged about their ages.

Due to the number of incidents taking place within that short period of time I attended the premises with Nick Bailey to meet with one of the directors of Glynneath Town Football Club Ltd, Mr Jonathan Harris. At the meeting Mr Harris recognised that the premises was "out of control" particularly on the 27/10/2023 as you had customers attending the premises from all over South Wales and they were just overwhelmed.

Mr Harris agreed that things needed to change and accepted that these "young person" events were the main cause for all the issues at the premises and suggested they would not be happening again.

I would agree that having events that draw in a younger crowd are very challenging to control and this Review will ensure that these events cannot take place unless properly managed with specific accountability for the licence holders and DPS.

Looking at the complaints received to the Legal Regulatory Section I can confirm since February 2021 to January 2024 15 complaints have been logged which have been made by residents, Police and Environmental Health. These have ranged from Covid issues, anti-social behaviour issues, alleged underage drinking and noise nuisance.

In dealing with these complaints Glynneath Town Football Club have been sent letters, emails as well as having a number of onsite meetings to try and resolve the matters reported. Some of these complaints have been unable to be fully substantiated due to the lack of CCTV available to investigate. It has also become apparent during these meetings how the lack of trained SIA registered door supervisors has affected the management of this premises.

The Licensing Act 2003 Guidance outlines that it is good practice for responsible authorities to give licence holders early warning of their concerns and the need for improvement, and where possible they should advise the licence holders of the steps they need to take to address those concerns.

As outlined above there has already been significant engagement with this premises and I feel sufficient advice has already been given to try and steer this premises in making the necessary improvements required. Unfortunately

the failings from the most recent events mean that this Review application is the best course of action to deal with the incidents that have taken place.

The police have proposed a number of conditions which they believe will assist in promoting the licensing objectives which I support and agree with. Condition number 17 is significant as it states that no persons under the age of eighteen are permitted in the premises when regulated entertainment is taking place.

In order to comply with this condition the applicant will have to have a robust age verification policy in place whenever they decide to put on regulated entertainment. This will be enforced by the Challenge 25 policy condition which the police have proposed but I think it is important that the licence holders demonstrate they understand what is being asked of them and how they will implement this.

The deregulation of the live and recorded music means that any conditions attached to a licence that relate to regulated entertainment do not apply between 08:00 -23:00 hours unless they have been re-imposed at a licence Review hearing; I believe due to the issues highlighted by this Review the below condition should also be attached to the licence:-

*By virtue of s177A of the Licensing Act 2003, the conditions of the Premises Licence relating to regulated entertainment shall be in force between 08:00 and 23:00 hours*

If this condition is imposed it would mean that all conditions relating to regulated entertainment attached to the licence are enforceable at all times and not just after 23:00 hours.

The public safety matters raised in the Review are also concerning particularly regarding fire safety as it has been outlined that the fire escape in the function room leading to the ground floor had been blocked and was being used as a storage area. This is clearly a major cause for concern, particularly with the admissions made of overcrowding which in itself seriously undermines the licensing objectives and no doubt questions why no one in the management team was able to identify this as a potential issue.

I will add that there have been occasions when we have visited this premises out of hours and there have been no issues with anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance or under age. It is clear when this premises does have events that involve a younger audience they find it very difficult to manage and as a consequence has caused major issues for the police as well as negatively impacting the local community.

To summarise I fully support the application made by the police as the conditions requested would become legal requirements and ensure the premises is accountable for compliance to these measures. The Review also acts as a further warning to the licence holders that improvements are not only necessary but essential to support the promotion the licensing objectives.

Regards

Peter Malough

Uwchswyddog Rheoleiddio Cyfreithiol - Senior Legal Regulatory Officer

Gwasanaethau Rheoleiddio Cyfreithiol - Legal Regulatory Services

Cyfarwyddiaeth Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol & Cyllid / Finance & Corporate Services Directorate

Rhif Ffôn / Tel No. 01639 763050

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and will deal with Welsh and English correspondence to the same standards and timescales.

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymdrin â gohebiaeth Gymraeg a Saesneg i'r un safonau ac amserlenni.

If you would like to use Welsh when dealing with the Council please click [here](#)

Os hoffech ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg wrth ddelio â'r Cyngor os gwelwch yn dda cliciwch [yma](#)



This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately. Please note also that there is no guarantee that this email or any attachment is virus free or has not been intercepted or amended.

Mae'r e-bost hwn ac unrhyw ffelliau a drosglwyddir gydag ef yn gyfrinachol ac at ddefnydd yr unigolyn neu'r corff y cyfeiriwyd hwy atynt yn unig. Os ydych wedi derbyn yr e-bost hwn mewn camgymeriad, dylech hysbysu'r person a anfonodd yr e-bost ar unwaith. Hefyd, sylwera nad oes unrhyw sicrwydd nad yw'r e-bost hwn neu unrhyw ymgysylltiad yn rhydd o firws ac nad yw chwaith wedi'i ryng-gipio na'i newid.