

Dear Mr Cross,

I have copied this e-mail to our Licensing Unit so they are aware of the dates you are unavailable.

I have no intention of arguing over the conditions of your licence outside of any review hearing, but I do feel I need to respond to the points raised in your e-mail:

1. I would expect any premises playing loud recorded or live music in the vicinity of residential properties to have the doors and windows closed at the time. This is standard practice.
2. I have already advised you to contact my colleague Keith Lawson if you have any safety concerns regarding the use of your lobby. If you remove said lobby you will have even less control of the noise breakout from your premises, which may lead to further enforcement action. If you feel that the condition in your licence is unreasonable, you should have applied for a variation to your licence.
3. I have said that the wording of the condition is unusual, but I have already previously discussed with you (and indeed you agreed) that the internal and external doors would be kept closed. You then went back on this commitment and I had to point out to you in writing that keeping the doors closed is a condition of your licence. On 29th January, when I attended your premises, there was no practical reason why the doors could not have been closed. When I made a polite and reasonable request to your door staff, to Ms DeCaro and (via her phone call) to yourself to close the doors, this request was refused. Let me be clear – that is not acceptable.

Kind regards,

Rowan Castle

Rowan Castle FRGS MCIEH CEnvH | Team Leader – Environmental Protection
North Northamptonshire Council
Bowling Green Road, Kettering, Northants NN15 7QX
T: 0300 126 3000 | DD: 01536 851248 | www.northnorthants.gov.uk



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From: James Cross <james@northantsbarco.com>

Sent: 31 January 2022 18:23

To: Rowan Castle <Rowan.Castle@northnorthants.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Application for the review of a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate Apr21 - Decades

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Dear Rowan,

You have stated yourself in this email that the term “practicable” is open to interpretation.

I interpret it different from you, therefore I refute the claim that I have breached a condition of my licence. There is not a venue in the town centre whose external doors are not propped open, and I will be providing proof of this imminently. We have the internal doors constantly closed, save for ingress and egress. We have adhered to the new licence conditions, we have installed new doors into Bar Seven. We have closed one of our entrances to the building, all to accommodate these complaints. The “lobby” area is far too small and dangerous for these doors to be permanently closed. If, however, this is the only way to satisfy your agenda, we can make these changes immediately, but it will mean we have no choice but to remove the internal lobby doors, thus removing that extra barrier for noise pollution, and want this recorded and recognised as I feel it will actually be counter productive to the management of said noise pollution and do not want a further review a few weeks down the line when it becomes glaringly obvious it was a bad decision.

Claiming I am breaching a condition, which you have admitted is open to interpretation and recommending sanctions, rather than just requesting a change of the condition for clarity purposes, seems very extreme and somewhat spiteful because we disagree on what that interpretation is.

Can I kindly request that you notify the committee that I am out of the country as of Wednesday 2nd February and do not return until the evening of Thursday 10th February, and that the hearing is not scheduled in that time? If you are unable to do this, please kindly let me know the contact information of the committee so I can do this myself.

Kind regards,

James Cross
Managing Director
The Northamptonshire Bar Company

Mobile: 07850 428 269
Tel: 01604 892 144

Registered Office
The Courtyard, George Row, Northampton, NN1 1DF

From: Rowan Castle <Rowan.Castle@northnorthants.gov.uk>

Sent: 31 January 2022 16:16

To: James Cross <james@northantsbarco.com>

Cc: liquorlicensing@northants.pnn.police.uk; KBC Planning <planning.kbc@northnorthants.gov.uk>;
fireprotection@northantsfire.gov.uk; Alcohol@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk;
phlicensing@northamptonshire.gov.uk; Business Advice <BusinessAdvice@northnorthants.gov.uk>;
SQAS@ncrust.co.uk; clerk@ketteringtowncouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Application for the review of a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate Apr21 - Decades

Dear Mr Cross,

I refer to the events of Saturday night (29th January 2022) when I attended your business (trading as Decades). As a result of the events on Saturday I am e-mailing to advise you that I am applying for a review of the Premises Licence for Decades, that is held by Prospect Brigstock Ltd. Please find attached a copy of my application. I will be sending Prospect Brigstock Ltd. a copy by e-mail shortly.

I have copied this e-mail to the relevant licensing consultees for their information.

Kind regards,

Rowan Castle

Rowan Castle FRGS MCIEH CEnvH | Team Leader – Environmental Protection
North Northamptonshire Council
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