

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets

For the Licensing Sub-committee Hearing on 12 May 2015

Charlie's Angels, 30 Alie Street, London E1 8DA – Application for a Sexual Entertainment Premises Licence

Name: Mr. Abdul Ali

WITNESS STATEMENT OF ABDUL ALI

My name is Abdul Ali. I hold a personal licence and am one of the managers employed by the club, Charlie's Angels which operates at 30 Alie Street, London E1 8DA.

I have worked here since Summer 2007 so have been involved with the premises for the past 8 years. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the venue Charlie's Angels has always been run in the manner that it is now, which is a given in the premises description within the licensing sub-committee papers. We have worked with the local council during this time and have had a good relationship with them.

I have read the objections submitted in relation to this application and second Mr Malik's observations.

Protection of Children from Harm

Councillors Assad and Khan make objection to the detrimental effect that the venue may have on young children. The venue does not open until 4pm after schools have closed. Even, if as stated, school clubs run until 6.00pm, the venue is quiet from 4pm and during the early evening. We have not been contacted at all, with any complaints from residents with young children. There should be no cause for anxiety. No performers appear outside of the venue "scantily clad" as they all wear long jackets or coats if they are wearing their usual costumes (long dresses from 6pm to 10pm, the shorter dresses). We are strict about this and this is part of the performer's code of conduct. I confirm what Mr Malik says about the clothing that is worn by performers. I also confirm that the performers don't sit outside at any time after 10pm.

Signage will be taken down in accordance with the meeting with Andrew Heron at the venue on Monday 30 March 2015.

I should also mention that on the date of Mr Heron's visit there had been a major and sudden power cut in our area on 27 March 2015, so the CCTV was not working due to this sudden power cut. I attach UK Power Networks Customer Services' email about this. However, the CCTV had gone off line and we have had to replace 90% of the CCTV equipment, including cameras and DV Recorders. Unfortunately this has been out of our control but we have done everything we can to put this right.

Public Nuisance

Noise Nuisance Team have not objected to the grant of this SEV licence, and I am not aware of any public nuisance arising from the premises or complaints about this. If we had been made aware of any complaints we would do everything we could to put things right. The premises adheres to its current licence and has a sound limiter fitted.

In relation to the representations from the anonymous local resident (in an email dated 23 December 2014), our performers do not shout out of the windows from the upper parts of the premises, nor from outside. 4 of our performers live permanently in the flat above. They are trustworthy and responsible people. They all have keys.

We dispose of bottles in a responsible manner respecting the peace of residents. I echo Mr Malik's comments about this.

We are careful, considerate neighbours and get on well with local residents and other businesses alike. I am very surprised by this objection.

Crime and Disorder

I note that the police have made no objection on crime and disorder grounds.

If it is true that the neighbour had to make an insurance claim for his car (damaged it is alleged by one of our refuse bins) then we were never contacted by insurers about this.

As for the drug dealing and sexual activity claimed by the neighbour to have taken place in the rear alleyway and on the street, this is simply incorrect. The police have never contacted us in relation to the drug dealing allegations or about any of this, despite the fact that the neighbour claims to have reported this "many times" to the police. We run a very safe, clean venue. If drugs are found upon a customer or on the premises, we report this to the police, which they must have a record of. We are very strict with our performers about their behaviour. None of our drivers (nor customers, as far as I am aware) urinate in the street. We have adequate toilets inside the venue for performers, customers and drivers alike.

No customer has access or uses to the door referred to by the objector as a fire exit at the rear of our building, where the objector claims to have witnessed sexual intercourse taking place.

I question the reliability of this witness who claims to be an ex police officer yet only "sometimes" reports apparent drug deals to the police. He appears to be a violent and short-tempered person if it is correct that he forced a man take hake his jacket off and mop up his own urine with it. He claims also to have chased a man.

I am happy for the committee to ask me questions in relation to the operation of the premises and will assist in any way I can.

I believe the facts in the above statement to be true.

Mr Abdul All

5/MAY/2015
Date

From: Charles Angeis [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 March 2015 16:11
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Business Insurance Claim

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Business Insurance Claim
Date: Fri, 27 Mar 2015 16:06:46 +0000

Dear Sir,

Thank you for talking to me on 27th March 2015 about your power supply, and what you need from us to make a claim on your business insurance.

For Underground Cables

Our records show that the power cut at your business happened on 27th March 2015 and occurred from time 0905. Our engineers arrived on site and identified a fault on the high voltage network causing the fuses to operate at the local substation, and all supplies restored by 1547 hrs.

You can use this email to support your claim.

I can quite appreciate how inconvenient this has been for you - not only the disruption to your business, but also the time it takes to make a claim. So, if there's anything else you need to help you with your claim, please do let me know.

Once again, I'm very sorry for the trouble you've had. If there's anything else you need, please do let me know. If I'm not available, one of my colleagues in our Customer Care Team will be happy to help you. I've put our number below.

[REDACTED] Customer Care Team

Yours sincerely,

Gary Lake,
UK Power Networks Customer Services
Ipswich, IP3 8AA
0845 601 510
[REDACTED]

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The London Borough of Tower Hamlets

For the Licensing Sub-committee Hearing on 12 May 2015

Charlie's Angels, 30 Alle Street, London E1 8DA – Application for a Sexual Entertainment Premises Licence

Name: Mr. Abdul Malik

DOB: Over 18

Address: c/o Charlies Angels, 30 Alle Street, London E1 8DA

WITNESS STATEMENT OF ABDUL MALIK

Witness statement of Abdul Malik

My name is Abdul Malik, I am a personal licence holder, the premises licence holder and the designated premises supervisor. I am also the manager at Charlie's Angels which operates at 30 Alle Street, London E1 8DA.

I have worked here since Summer 2007 so have been involved with the premises for the past 8 years. To the best of my knowledge and belief, since we re-branded as Charlie's Angels and re furnished the venue last year, the premises has always been run in the manner that it is now, which is a given in the premises description within the licensing sub-committee papers. We have worked with the local council during these years and have had a good relationship with them.

I have read the objections submitted in relation to this application and say as follows:

Protection of Children from Harm

I note that Councillors Assad and Khan make objection to the detrimental effect that the venue may have on young children. The venue does not open until 4pm after schools have closed. Even, if (as stated) school clubs run until 6.00pm, the venue is quiet from 4pm and during the early evening and we have not been contacted about any complaints from residents with young children. There should be no cause for anxiety. No performers ever appear outside of the venue "scantily clad." They always wear long coats or long jackets if they are in their performance clothing. Between 4pm and 6pm our performers wear normal clothes. At 6pm they change into long dresses, and then short dresses at 10pm. After 10pm no performers sit outside.

The relevant signage will be taken down in accordance with Mr Ali's meeting with Andrew Heron at the venue in March 2015.

Public Nuisance

I think that it is noteworthy that the Noise Nuisance Team have not objected to the grant of this SEV licence, and I am not aware of any public nuisance arising from the premises or complaints. If we had complaints we would do our utmost to put things right.

In relation to the representations from the anonymous local resident (in an email dated 23 December 2014) I am very surprised by the contents of this email. Our performers as far as I am aware are responsible girls and do not shout out of the windows from the upper parts of the premises. There is a 4 bedroom flat and this flat is shared by 4 performers only. These 4 individuals live there permanently, share the flat and all have keys.

We dispose of bottles in a responsible manner respecting the peace of residents. In fact we empty bottles the following afternoon between the hours of 2pm and 3pm, never early in the morning as the objector claims. Veolia are employed by the council to empty the commercial waste. We have complained to the council several times in the past that other businesses were using our bin. For the last 12 months it has been locked.

We are careful, considerate neighbours and get on well with local residents and other businesses alike. I am very surprised by this objection.

Crime and Disorder

If it is true that the neighbour had to make an insurance claim for his car (damaged it is alleged by our refuse bins) then we were never contacted by the insurers about this. The wheels are also lockable so if Veolia left them unlocked it is possible the bin may have rolled onto the car which is regrettable. We had no knowledge of this, if it is true as we were never told.

As for the drug and sexual activity claimed by the neighbour to have taken place in the rear alleyway and on the street, this is nonsense. The police have never contacted us in relation to the drug dealing allegations or about any of this, despite the fact that the neighbour claims to have reported this "many times" to the police. We run a very safe, clean venue. Drug taking at the club is treated very seriously. We are very strict with our performers about their behaviour. None of our drivers urinate in the street. We have perfectly good toilets inside the venue for performers, customers and drivers.

No customer has access or uses to the door referred to by the objector as a fire exit at the rear of our building where the objector claims to have witnessed sexual intercourse. Our customers leave and enter our premises at the front door. They do not drive to the venue. They use public transport or taxis that we arrange for them.

I question the reliability of this witness who claims to be an ex police officer yet only "sometimes" reports apparent drug deals to the police. Also he appears to be a violent person if it is correct that he chased a man and forced another to take his jacket off and mop up his own urine with it.

I am happy for the committee to ask me questions in relation to the operation of the premises and will assist in any way I can.

I believe the facts in the above statement to be true.

Mr Abdul Malik

Date 5/5/2015

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets

For the Licensing Sub-committee Hearing on 12 May 2015

Charlie's Angels, 30 Alie Street, London E1 8DA – Application for a Sexual Entertainment Premises Licence

Name: Mr. Antonio Salvatore Pomerico

DOB: Over 18

Address: c/o Charlies Angels, 30 Alie Street, London E1 8DA

WITNESS STATEMENT OF ANTONIO SALVATORE POMERICO

My name is Antonio Salvatore Pomerico, I am the floor manager at Charlie's Angels which operates at 30 Alie Street, London E1 8DA. I hold a Personal Licence.

I have worked here since December 2007 so have been involved with the premises for the past 7 and a half years. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the premises trading as Charlies Angeis has always been run in the manner that it is now, which is a given in the premises description within the licensing sub-committee papers. We have worked with the local council during this time and previously when we traded as Oops and have always had a good relationship with them.

I have read the objections submitted in relation to this application and second Mr Malik's observations.

I have never heard the performers shouting out of their flat. They all have keys. Very few people go out the back door. The DJ goes to his car from time to time which is parked legally on East Tenter Street behind the club, to get a protein shake.

We certainly do not condone or encourage drug dealing. We operate responsibly and report any drugs found on the premises to the police, when it happens, which is not often. I am not aware that our customers urinate in the street. As for the objector's claims that customers have sex in the doorway outside, that is just not true.

We have not had visits from the police unless we have invited them, and we have not been told about noise complaints.

General

I cannot comment on this venue being an "affront to the muslim community" except to say we have customers from all cultures and religions, and i believe this is something that has been "overplayed" in Tower Hamlets.

I am happy for the committee to ask me questions in relation to the operation of the premises and will assist in any way I can.

I believe the facts in the above statement to be true.

[Redacted signature area]

Mr Antonio Salvatore Pomerico

Date 06/05/2015



The London Borough of Tower Hamlets

For the Licensing Sub-committee Hearing on 12 May 2015

Charlies Angels, 30 Alle Street, London E1 8DA – Application for a Sexual Entertainment Premises Licence

Name: Ms. Ioana Martin

DOB: Over 18

Address: [REDACTED]

Witness Statement of Ioana Martin

My name is Ms Ioana Martin. I am a performer at Charlie's Angels which operates from premises at 30 Alle Street, London E1 8RA. I have worked there since 2011.

As noted above, I have worked at the venue for 4 years. During that time I have not experienced any of the problems raised by the objectors in the objections submitted in relation to this application. I have found the premises to be a safe and secure place for me to work.

I have not seen any instances of crime and disorder arising from the premises during my time here. 4 of us do live in the flat above the venue. The other performers do not stay. Neither do we have sex with the customers. This is a ridiculous claim. We respect the neighbours and never shout down to colleagues. We dispose of all domestic rubbish in our flat. All sanitary waste is disposed of in special bins in the female toilets, which is collected separately, and not as the objector claims, in the commercial rubbish bin outside. Commercial waste is collected around 6am in the morning by the council. [REDACTED]

I confirm Mr Malik's observation about performers clothing when outside the venue. Until 10⁶pm we are dressed informally in tracksuits or everyday wear. At 10⁶pm we change into our long dresses, and after 10pm we wear short dresses only inside the club. After 10pm we do not sit outside. We are always wearing full length coats or jackets if we do go outside. [REDACTED]

I am happy for the committee to ask me questions in relation to the operation of the premises and will assist in any way I can.

I believe the facts in the above statement to be true.

[REDACTED]

Ms Ioana Martin

5.05.15

Date

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets

For the Licensing Sub-committee Hearing on 12 May 2015

Charlies Angels, 30 Alie Street, London E1 8DA – Application for a Sexual Entertainment Premises Licence

Name: Ms. Izabela Radu

DOB: Over 18

Address: [REDACTED]

WITNESS STATEMENT OF IZABELA RADU

Witness statement of Izabela Radu.

My name is Ms Izabela Raidu. I am a performer at Charlie's Angels which operates from premises at 30 Alie Street, London E1 8DA. I have worked there since 2014.

As noted above, I have worked at the venue for 1 year. During that time I have not experienced any of the problems raised by the objectors in the objections submitted in relation to this application. I have found the premises to be a safe and secure place for me to work. It is well run and well managed.

I have not seen any instances of crime and disorder arising from the premises during my time here. 4 of us do live in the flat above the venue. The other performers do not stay. Neither do we have sex with the customers. This is a ridiculous claim. We respect the neighbours and never shout down to colleagues. We dispose of all domestic rubbish in our flat. All sanitary waste is disposed of in special bins in the female toilets, which is collected separately, and not as the objector claims, in the commercial rubbish bin outside. Commercial waste is collected around 6am in the morning by the council. [REDACTED]

I confirm Mr Malik's observation about performers clothing when outside the venue. Until 10pm we are dressed informally in tracksuits or everyday wear. At 10pm we change into our long dresses, and after 10pm we wear short dresses only inside the club. After 10pm we do not sit outside. We are always wearing full length coats or jackets if we do go outside. [REDACTED]

I am happy for the committee to ask me questions in relation to the operation of the premises and will assist in any way I can.

I believe the facts in the above statement to be true.

[REDACTED]
Ms Izabela Radu

05.05.2015
Date