

**Licensing & Control Sub-Committee B**  
**28 November 2012**

**Licensing Act 2003 – Applications for the Review of the Premises  
Licences of the Liquid Lounge & Light Bar  
Representations supporting Licence Holders**

**Appendix F 1**



**WORTHING  
PUB WATCH**

**AND SUSSEX POLICE "a working partnership"**

Helping to reduce acts of crime, violence and disturbance in Worthing

Dear Councillors

**Re: Licensing Act 2003 – Review Applications by Sussex Police  
Liquid Lounge & Light Bar  
Messrs. Peter Mott & Barry Wells**

I wish to make a representation under the Licensing Act 2003 regarding the above applications made by Sussex Police. I am a personal licence holder, I run a licensed premise in Worthing and I'm an active member of Worthing Pub Watch.

Pub Watch has been an active partner in Worthing's efforts to improve its image and economy for many years. It has worked tirelessly to improve the town with the aim of making it a better place to live, work and visit by helping to reduce public place crime, disorder and nuisance and, therefore, contribute to the town's development and economic growth. Pub Watch works closely with Worthing Borough Council, Sussex Police and the other responsible authorities and considers them partners.

The group represents virtually all the bars & nightclubs in the borough. All the venues involved advertise the scheme and its literature informs the public that crime or disorderly behaviour, including the use/dealing of drugs, within any of the town's public houses, bars and nightclubs will result in the offender being banned from all venues within the Borough. A policy virtually all venues pursue vigorously.

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The management of the Liquid Lounge & Light Bar have been active members of pub watch for over 15 years. They attend more of our meetings than any other venue. They have been active in all sorts of pub watch projects including the 'Responsible Drinks Retailing Charter', 'We Serve Drinks Not Drunks' campaign, paying for & supplying high visibility jackets with the 'Worthing Pub Watch' logo to SIA door staff when the scheme began, making the highest monthly contributions to the Worthing Taxi-Marshall Scheme and sitting on the Taxi-Marshall Partnership. These premises operate the highest tech. CCTV, employ the most experienced door staff team in the town and even introduced a high-tech ID scan system (though admittedly this proved unreliable).

In addition, as part of the Taxi-Marshall Partnership meetings, which Sussex Police attend, when recently problems were discussed regarding the number of revellers queuing at the taxi rank late between 02.30hrs and 04.30hrs the Liquid Lounge and Light Bar fitted free-phones for their customers to directly contact taxi providers to try to relieve the problem. When complaints came to light that the number of late night taxis attending the rank had dropped the problem was investigated by the group. It was discovered that taxi drivers did not feel safe and complained that Sussex Police were taking little action when drivers made complaint regarding assaults, intimidation, abuse and customers' non-payment. The Liquid Lounge management came up with the 'Keep Calm' taxi campaign and drafted the posters. This on-going campaign advertises the fact that those found to be abusing taxi drivers or taxi marshals will be banned from all pub watch premises. Stickers/posters are displayed in taxis and licensed premises.

Premises that sell alcohol in the late night economy will always experience some incidents of violence, criminal behaviour and drunkenness. The Liquid lounge has traditionally been the busiest venue in town opening until slightly later than others. Sussex Police have listed a number of issues and incidents they consider unacceptable. Of course all incidents are unacceptable but a large, very busy venue will always experience some problems. Staff at both these venues usually deal with problems very professionally. I consider the Liquid Lounge to be an extremely well run venue that always co-

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Sussex Police is meant to be a working partner to Worthing pub watch. Pub watch will never defend a member that is intentionally irresponsible, criminal or negligent. In fact pub watch will do all it can to assist the authorities weed out all such operators from the town and the industry. However, whilst we appreciate Sussex Police is an enforcing authority I cannot condone these applications for the review of the licences of a responsible operator and an active pub watch member without advanced warning or written complaint. It amounts to treacherous behaviour that has seriously damaged pub watch's trust of Sussex Police. Which of our members will be the subject of a police review application, without warning, next? Such behaviour damages our relationship and does not promote the licensing objectives. The result is publicans will be afraid to report an incident which is hardly beneficial for anyone. Instead Sussex Police should be working with the management of the Liquid Lounge and Light Bar to address any concerns they have.

To request the revocation of these licences is high handed and does not consider the dramatic impact it will have on the night time economy and survival of other licensed premises within the town. The Licensing Committee has a duty to promote the licensing objectives not only with regard to these applications but with regard to the licensed trade in the borough as a whole. Worthing's night time economy is suffering in the current economic climate. Closing the busiest town centre venue will damage the night time economy further. Customers from licensed premises all over the town make their way to the Liquid Lounge to finish their evenings. How can it promote the prevention of crime & disorder to forcibly relocate 400 to 800 customers a night from a well established well run venue either to a number of smaller less experienced venues or worse still if these customers instead start going to Brighton where cheap alcohol promotions are not controlled and a late night bus deposits them at Worthing Pier, often very drunk, at 04.15hrs each morning.

I ask members to reject the police's applications completely. A review application should not be a complete surprise to a legitimate operator. Sussex Police should have warned these premises management that they had serious issues. I request the committee direct Sussex Police to in the future be far more transparent in their dealings with

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[Redacted signature block]

Name: [Redacted]

Address: [Redacted] Montague Street  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
[Redacted]



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Pub/Club Watch has been an active partner in Worthing's efforts to improve its image and economy for many years. It has worked tirelessly to improve the town with the aim of making it a better place to live, work and visit by helping to reduce public place crime, disorder and nuisance and, therefore, contribute to the town's development and economic growth. Pub/Club Watch works closely with Worthing Borough Council, Sussex Police and the other responsible authorities and considers them partners.

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Chairperson  
Worthing Pub/Club Watch





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Address: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Richmond Road.....  
Worthing  
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Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Marine Parade  
Worthing  
West Sussex

[REDACTED]



Dear Councillors

Re: Licensing Act 2003 - Review Applications by Sussex Police  
Liquid Lounge & Light Bar  
Messrs. Peter Mott & Barry Wells

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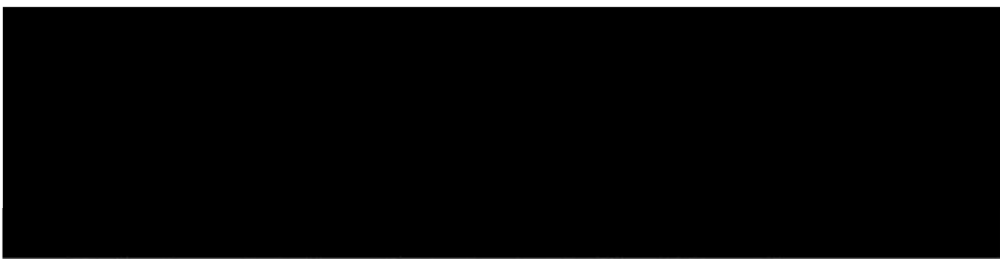
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The management of the Liquid Lounge & Light Bar have been active members of pub watch for over 15 years. They attend more of our meetings than any other venue.






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**The  
Hare & Hounds**  
79-81 Portland Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex – BN11 1QG  
01903 230085



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Yours faithfully

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted] Portland Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]



# WORTHING PUB WATCH

AND SUSSEX POLICE "a working partnership"

Helping to reduce acts of crime, violence and disturbance in Worthing

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Yours faithfully

Name: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] High Street  
Tarring  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
[REDACTED]



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Yours faithfully

Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Rowlands Road  
Worthing  
[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 9

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2012 14:43  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** The Liquid Lounge

I live in Worthing and have seen in the local paper that there is the possibility of The Liquid Lounge losing it's late licence.

I often go to the club, mainly because it is the only late night place to go, but also because I have always found it enjoyable and safe.

I have lived in Worthing for many years and feel that in the last 5 years the town has gradually gone downhill in terms of late night evening entertainment and this has been reflected in the reduction in the amount of people that you now see in the town during the evening.

By taking away the licence of the club would be the final nail in the coffin for Worthing as a night out and I feel it would just force more of the people that would normally go to the pubs and bars in the town, then to the night club, to look at going to other places such as Brighton instead.

I hope that when considering what happens to the club you also take into what other businesses would lose in the process.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] St Andrews Road  
Worthing

[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 10

[REDACTED]  
Amberley Drive  
Worthing  
[REDACTED]

19.12.12

Simon Jones  
Licensing Officer  
Worthing Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Worthing

[Simon.Jones@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:Simon.Jones@adur-worthing.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Jones

### **Liquid Lounge Nightclub and Light Bar**

I am writing to express my concern at the steps which are being taken by Sussex Police to try and revoke the licence for both the Liquid Lounge Nightclub and Light Bar.

I have known the proprietors for many, many years. I acted as their solicitor when they took on the leases some 18 years ago.

The business is professionally run and provides a valuable facility for the town of Worthing.

I think it is important to point out that their offering covers a very wide age span and includes disco's for under 16's and 18's.

It is also worth noting that they regularly support both local and national charities.

I wish to register my support for this business and note my objection to the behaviour of Sussex Police.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 11

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2012 14:44  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** Liquid Lounge Nightclub & Light Bar

Dear Mr Jones,

I am writing regarding the above business and would like to use this as a letter of support as I hear the licence maybe revoked in the near future.

I would be deeply disappointed if the club were to close as I frequently socialise there along with friends on a regular basis, I have always found the club to be very professional and the staff very welcoming. I have always thought the club to be a safe place to socialise and have always recommended it to friends.

I feel the club is an integral part of Worthing and would feel that the town as a whole would suffer without it.

I hope this email has convinced you to renew the licence, so everyone can enjoy many more memorable times there.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Joseph Walk  
Shoreham by Sea

[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 12

■ Yew Tree Close  
Lancing  
West Sussex  
■

Simon Jones  
Worthing Borough Council  
Portland House  
Richmond Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex

15 December 2012

Dear Mr Jones

### **Re: Liquid Lounge Nightclub and Light Bar**

With regard to the above mentioned premises I would like to say that in all the years that I have been a patron I cannot speak highly enough about them.

I am a disabled customer and have always been treated with the utmost courtesy and respect. The friendliness and helpfulness of the staff and management and the way they have always facilitated my every need I find to have been 'above and beyond' expectation. I have also had several private functions at the premises for children's birthdays and adults alike.

I can genuinely state that the level of professionalism coupled with friendliness, have made my every visit an absolute joy and were the venue to no longer exist, I believe it would be a great loss to Worthing as a whole.

Thank you very much for your time, and should there be any further way in which I may be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

■

## Appendix F 13

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 20 December 2012 16:56  
To: Simon Jones  
Subject: Liquid Lounge and Light bar licence review  
Dear Simon

I just wanted to drop you a quick line in reference to the proposed challenge to the licence at Liquid Lounge and The Light bar.

I have been working in Worthing as a DJ for many years now since I was 18 at a variety of bars and clubs, and have been working at Liquid Lounge for over 10 years now.

Since beginning my DJ career I have seen a lot of venues run and managed incorrectly and close down as a result leaving a lot of people complaining that there just isn't much to do in Worthing.

As a result of this I now only work at venues that I believe are run correctly and that I feel safe working in.

As Liquid Lounge is Worthing's longest running club, it provides an essential service to people that work hard and deserve to have a variety in their choice of what to do with their leisure time.

Liquid Lounge is owned and run by a very experienced team, that have kept the business going through several difficult recessions, and provided many an enjoyable night for a large proportion of Worthing residents at some point in their lives

I must say it is genuinely a pleasure to work at such a great venue and I feel it is a credit to the town as it provides a great variety of well organised entertainment to a wide variety of age groups and tastes. As well this I'm proud to say that Liquid Lounge provides venues, events, sponsorship and help to a variety of charities including: St Baranabas, Chestnut tree house, Breast Cancer research, help for heroes and many more over the years

A lot of this credit and success I would have to attribute to working with such a great team. We enjoy a friendly, professional working atmosphere, with regular meetings to give our own (and customers) feedback, so that we can evolve the business to cater for the needs of our clients in Worthing and surrounding areas.

Liquid Lounge is one of only a few venues I have worked in that I notice all DJ's (myself included) Bar staff and glass collectors all working closely with the security team, notifying them if we think someone has maybe had one drink to many, and carefully watching out for any body language we think could lead to a potential problem, so it can be diffused before it becomes an issue.

If Worthing lost its largest night time entertainment venue, I also feel it would have a disastrous effect on our local economy and result not just in the loss of over 50 jobs at the club, but have a knock on effect on Taxi companies, Restaurants, Takeaways, Clothes shops, Hairdressers, beauty and tanning salons to name but a few, as the young people in particular are driven further a field in search of a night out and the preparations that lead to them.

If there are issues that need resolving at the club I would like to think that we can all work together than resolve these rather than simply moving the issues elsewhere.

I dearly hope for Worthing's sake we can resolve any problems, so that we may continue to give Worthing the entertainment and the friendly service that it deserves.

Kind regards

██████████

████ Brighton Road  
Lancing  
West Sussex  
BN15 8LB





Our Ref: DS

FAO: Simon Jones  
Licensing Officer Worthing Borough Council

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

Dear Mr Jones

**RE: Liquid Lounge Nightclub & Light Bar, Worthing, West Sussex**

As a long standing resident of Worthing I have visited the above mentioned premises on many occasions and have never experienced any trouble and have always found the premises to be safe, professionally run & I consider the above to be a major night time venue benefiting Worthing Town Centre.

I sincerely hope that their license be retained so that myself, friends, family and colleagues can continue to visit the nightclub for many more years to come.

Kind Regards





Dear Mr Jones,

I am writing to you regarding the ongoing discussion of revocation of license at the Liquid Lounge premises in Worthing. I must say that I am extremely surprised at the possible decision to revoke the license, I have frequented the establishment many times over the last few years with friends and colleagues alike and we have always felt that the nightclub offers a safe and friendly night out (something that I'm sure you are aware is not as common as it used to be in Worthing).

I believe that the closure of this nightclub would result in the loss of one of the most iconic, professional and safe night environments left in the Worthing and would strongly urge you to re-consider your approach to the revocation of license.

Thank you for your time,

Kind regards,



## Appendix F 16

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 December 2012 10:56  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** The Liquid Lounge & Light Bar  
Dear sirs

I am emailing to express that I am very disappointed to hear that there are moves to try and revoke the licence for the above.

I have Lived and worked in Worthing for 24 years and have used the club and bar on many occasions for personal and work related evenings out, and have never had anything other than a great time.

I am the Director of two local businesses who have used the venues for staff evenings out, which we would not have done if the venue was unsafe or poorly run. If the venue is closed it would mean that we would have to move all future work nights out to Brighton, which can't be in the interest of the town.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 17

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2012 14:49  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** Liquid Lounge Nightclub

[REDACTED]  
Fircroft Avenue  
North Lancing  
West Sussex  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Jones,

After hearing that there is a possibility that Liquid Lounge nightclub in Worthing will lose their licence, I strongly felt the need to show my support in their establishment. I visit liquid lounge on a regular basis with my friends and we always feel safe. I cannot recall a visit in which was not enjoyable. The staff are so friendly and welcoming. To lose Liquid Lounge would be a great shame and would force me and many others to find another destination, meaning in a loss of business from us as we would most probably visit Brighton instead.

I hope this email helps in your decision.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Cross Lane  
Findon  
[REDACTED]

Simon Jones  
Worthing Borough Council (Licensing Officer)  
[simon.jones@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:simon.jones@adur-worthing.gov.uk)

ref; Liquid Lounge, Chatsworth Road Worthing

18 December 2012

Dear Mr Jones,

**Young people have lots of energy and the need to socialise.**

It is easy for youngsters with enthusiasm and naivety to get into situations they can't control. It is a part of growing up to be exposed to smoking, drinking alcohol, sexual activity and taking drugs. Youngsters need more outlets and safe places to hang out. It does appear that due to the credit crunch many venues for young people to go to meet are closing down. Staying at home watching TV, playing video games and going on the internet is all good but if this becomes their only option they become frustrated. It is not always possible, encouraged or safe for them to hang around the park, street corners or anywhere else. As a result they feel less and less able to express themselves so they become self-absorbed and depressed. Without outlets they become more socially inept and insular. This inactivity and behaviour affects their physical and mental state. There isn't any security at a house party, on a street corner, at a park or within an empty warehouse to keep out dubious characters and to keep an eye on things. Our young people need guidance and to have places to go where they are protected. Well-run pubs, bars and clubs are these types of outlets.

**The Liquid Lounge**

I have been going to the Liquid Lounge night-club since my late 20's and have always found it to be run in a professional manner. As my life has changed I have stopped frequenting pubs and clubs, however at Christmas in 2011 I went out with friends for supper and a drink in town. I felt young again and thought 'hey why not go clubbing' so went to the Liquid Lounge; this was a bit of a nostalgia trip. The first thing that struck us on entering the club was the queue, which was being formed by the door security checking everyone. I felt that the security if anything was a bit over the top. We were asked for id - I'm sure they checked us to see if we were over 21 again! We were then searched for drugs and weapons. There was CCTV everywhere and even in the toilets there was a security attendant supplying aftershave and hand towels. It was incredible to see the safety and security measures that were operating. I understand that the club copies CCTV footage and that this is offered to the police to assist in any enquiries they have.

### **Worthing Nightlife**

There are many youngsters in Worthing. Nightlife is much more than pubs, bars and nightclubs and includes, for example, restaurants, the cinema, theatres, very occasional live entertainment and concerts. These activities should be promoted to all age groups to encourage and promote diversification and further regeneration of the nighttime economy. They all feed off each other. It is easier to control one area like a town centre than to disperse people into the wider outlying areas.

The average age in pubs and clubs is between 21 and 35. It is inevitable within a population of youngsters during a Thursday, Friday or Saturday night that some of these will be involved in, or become victims of, anti-social behaviour. Interestingly most young people drink alcohol before they go out to pubs or clubs. There will always be unfortunate events where someone that was in a club or pub gets into a situation they weren't expecting after leaving the club or venue. It is short-sighted to then blame this establishment for events that happened afterwards as it would also be unfair to blame Tesco Express if this person bought a beer or a bottle of wine earlier that night.

### **A Partnership Approach**

In the centre of Worthing, it appears that door staff outnumber police during nightlife hours. I feel we should actually commend clubs like the Liquid Lounge and I feel more work should be done to recognise the job that the staff and owners do to protect our youngsters. Well-run businesses like the Liquid Lounge employ trained staff that are respectful; police who is admitted; and refuse admission to known felons, people that are under-age or people who may be intoxicated. In this way they help prevent violence and maximise the safety of their customers. Of course statistically someone can escape the net. I know that if an offender is on a police list and this is circulated to the Liquid Lounge or other local pubs and clubs then the security doorman will try and identify the offenders to keep them out. Our sons and daughters are safer in these clubs.

### **Reducing crime**

Police budgets are tight and resources squeezed. The resources that well-trained door staff can bring to maintain safety and to reduce violence in the night time environment should be recognized and commended. There should be collaborative working between the local police, licensing and local businesses and more should be done to work with door staff of clubs like the liquid Lounge to encourage these clubs to report incidents and to share information instead of being penalised or demonised for doing so. To pinpoint crime that is based around nightclubs and pubs is not the whole picture. It must also be understood that just because the club shares CCTV footage does not make them the culprit.

It does not necessarily mean there are more night time incidents due to the pubs and clubs and it must also be recognised that there is underreporting of incidents outside of areas that do not have CCTV recording or where there are no credible witnesses present. We often hear of anti-social behaviour occurring within and around these outlying areas. The local parks and open spaces have litter everywhere, bottles, fast food remnants, and signs of drug taking and vandalism. No one can say 'this was done on this date by x', as there is no evidence. It is understood by the general public that without witnesses or CCTV footage, the police have a very hard job in gaining a

conviction so crimes go unreported. Underreporting does have the affect of lowering the police incident rate. Crime figures are therefore not a true reflection of the actual picture and the impact on the wider community.

### **The future**

We should embrace clubs like the Liquid Lounge and recognise the fact that their trained staff are there to keep people safe and to reduce the **true** crime rate. I have a 12 year old daughter. When she comes of an age that she wishes to socialise on a Friday or Saturday night it will make me feel happier knowing that when she goes into town she will be entering an environment like The Liquid Lounge that has professional trained staff, CCTV recording and her best interests and safety at heart.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

## **Appendix F 19**

**From:** Lo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 December 2012 14:39  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** Liquid Lounge, Worthing  
Dear Mr Jones

I would like to comment on the possible closure of the Liquid Lounge nightclub in Worthing. Although in my late thirties I have been known to patronise this venue on a girlie / hen night and have always had a very nice time. I have never felt in danger or threatened as I have found that people are there to have a good time and there is always alot of security around anyway. It would be such a shame for this venue to close down as it's great that Worthing offers such diversity for its young people (and the slightly older ones on the odd occasion). Surely if this club closes you are sending a clear message that the smallest minority of people that are out to cause trouble and fight others have the last say on whether businesses are allowed to trade in Worthing. If a child in a school shows extremely antisocial behaviour they are excluded. Wouldn't it be a better message to people in Worthing that this antisocial behaviour will not be tolerated and they therefore would be excluded from our town centres. I am sure that alot of local licensees would welcome such a ban.

On a personal note I can truly say that I have never seen any antisocial behaviour outside the Liquid Lounge and when it has been time to leave the security have always been calm, polite, vigilant and have quietly moved on their customers. As a female I have felt very safe and protected outside when heading off for a taxi. My nineteen year old daughter regularly goes there and she has never come home with any negative comments. In fact she always says what a great time she has had and she doesn't even drink alcohol so I am sure she would be aware of any trouble.

I hope that my comments are considered and that Worthing remains a lovely place to live for the young and old.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED] Fourth Avenue, Charmandean, Worthing)

## Appendix F 20

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 19 December 2012 14:55  
To: Simon Jones  
Subject: Liquid Lounge Closure !

To whom it may concern,

I was quite dismayed and astounded to read of the possible closure of The Liquid Lounge in Worthing. Over the past 18 years this bar/club has proven to be the most popular and best run venue of its type in Worthing. Peter & Barry put the safety of the clubs patrons above everything else and have always worked with the police and local authorities to this end. Surely they cannot be held responsible for every misdemeanour attributed to someone who has visited the club, just as every publican is not liable for their clientele. What ever happened to taking responsibility for one's own actions? I think the truth is that certain factions within the local police & council have the own agenda that includes for a OAP Worthing with no provision for the young, after all, there are night trains & buses to Brighton eh ?

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
St.Leonards Avenue  
Hove  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 21 December 2012 00:11:27 GMT  
**To:** <[liquidworthing@aol.com](mailto:liquidworthing@aol.com)>  
**Subject:** For the attention of Simon Jones

For the attention of Simon Jones,

I have been a lecturer at Northbrook College Sussex for 7yrs, teaching mostly on the BTEC and Foundation Degree in Performing Arts. In the many years I have worked at Northbrook I've known many students to regularly visit Liquid Lounge night club, I have never heard of any problems. Students often comment on the strictness of the staff on ID cards, drug checks etc.

Last year I produced an event with BTEC students for the Worthing Shakespeare Festival. We used Liquid lounge as a venue for our event- a site specific performance. The managers and staff at Liquid Lounge generously gave us use of their venue for rehearsal, performance as well as giving us their time. They did this for no financial gain, but for community involvement. The staff were always incredibly professional giving health and safety talks and fire drills.

This event gave our students the platform to raise their profile within the community. The event brought together young people, theatre goers, local press, parents and Worthing Council and celebrated youth culture in a venue that is part of their community.

In this economic climate, with local resources and funding cut, it is vital that establishments such as Liquid lounge who operate not just as a business but as a key role in the community are supported.

Liquid Lounge is safe, professionally run, community minded and for many of our students the centre of their community.

I speak on behalf of the tutors at Northbrook College. I would be more than happy to discuss Liquid Lounge and its importance to our town further. Please don't hesitate to contact me next term 7th Jan onwards on [REDACTED]

Best Wishes

[REDACTED]



To the Attention of Simon Jones,

I am very sad to hear the news about the Worthing night club liquid lounge potentially having their licence revoked. I am unsure of all the details involved however I do feel that the club is run very well. I have enjoyed many evenings using the premises and like all other venues there are always people who want to spoil their own night as well as others but these individuals have always been dealt with in a safe and professional manner. Even as a level two door supervisor I have not been able to fault any of the door staffs professionalism. Worthing would suffer a great loss if losing this essential hub of the town centre nightlife. As well as this any problems thought to be created by the venue I feel will simply move to other smaller venues amplifying the problem making Worthing a less sociable night out. I hope the resolve of the matter is a positive one for liquid lounge as I feel that it will be a loss for the community as well as the business itself.

Thank you for reading



[REDACTED]  
Upper Brighton Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
[REDACTED]

Mr Simon Jones  
(Licensing Officer)  
Worthing Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Chapel Road  
Worthing

19<sup>th</sup> December 2012

Dear Mr Jones

**The Liquid Lounge Nightclub.**

I have been made aware that the licence for these premises is under review.

I have been a Worthing resident for some forty years (since my early teens), and a Council Tax payer for over thirty five years. During this time our town has had very little to offer the young residents by way of entertainment, both during the day and at night. In my opinion and experience, when compared to other major towns in the South of England, Worthing has very poor amenity.

I am extremely concerned at the idea that one of our few night spots, The Liquid Lounge may have its' licence revoked. Why? About twice a month I choose to visit The Liquid Lounge as a place of entertainment. I go there to dance and to talk with my younger friendship group, many of whom I know through Worthing Golf Club. In all of the years that I have been frequenting The Liquid Lounge, I have always felt completely safe and at ease. The staff are friendly and the atmosphere is one of light hearted good fun. I have hardly ever experienced bad behaviour, and minor incidents have always been handled quickly and with utter professionalism by the staff employed to keep an eye on such events.

Why is this matter even on the agenda? The Liquid Lounge is a well managed business offering good quality entertainment in a town which is severely lacking alternatives.

The Liquid Lounge is an excellent club which I thoroughly enjoy visiting. I will be extremely upset if it is no longer there and I am, yet again, forced from my own town, in pursuit of evening entertainment.

Please consider my letter a thorough vote of confidence, in a business that I have regular and positive first hand experience of.

Yours sincerely,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 24

From: [REDACTED]  
To: liquidworthing@aol.com  
Sent: 20/12/2012 16:58:02 GMT Standard Time  
Subj: (no subject)

Attn: Simon Jones

As both an employee and a regular customer of Liquid Lounge, I have seen first hand how the club is managed from both sides of the bar.

Firstly, from an employee's point of view, I can confirm that Liquid Lounge is managed in a highly professional manner. Any staff issues are dealt with in an efficient and appropriate way. Similarly, on the rare occasion where there are issues among customers, the management and door staff work closely together in order to resolve the problem as fairly and professionally as possible. Bar staff also have regulations by which we must abide. For example, we are regularly assessed on fire safety procedures as well as trained in judging when a customer is to be refused alcoholic drinks.

From a customer's point of view, Liquid Lounge provides evening entertainment to all age groups within the community. It is a valued venue to all that use its facilities as both a bar and a nightclub.

I ask that you kindly reconsider your decision to revoke the license. Not only will many lose their jobs but it will be a huge loss to the community who regularly enjoy all that Liquid Lounge has to offer.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 25

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 December 2012 15:01  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** Liquid Lounge

Dear Mr Jones

I am saddened to hear about the possible closure of the night club, Liquid Lounge. I use this venue several times through the course of the year and find it a great place for a late drink. On a few occasions I have taken clients there after a meal out with them. As a local businessman I do have to entertain clients and this has been a great place to finish off an evening. As a forty seven year old male you may think that I shouldn't be in a night club but Liquid Lounge welcomes all age groups which is why there is always a great atmosphere and a party feel to the place. As an older customer I feel that I am very aware of my surroundings and environment and I can honestly say that I have been aware of plenty of security staff around which contributes to the safety and welfare of its customers. This is a concern to me as I have teenage children and its reassuring to know that they are enjoying themselves in a controlled environment. The staff are always professional and friendly too.

Should this club close down you are depriving decent people of a good night out. The club is a major part of Worthing's night scene and would be missed by all the decent hard working people that want to have a good time at the weekends.

I welcome any comments or questions from yourself.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED] Fourth Avenue, Charmandean, Worthing.)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2012 14:33  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for the Liquid Lounge nightclub in Worthing.

Dear Mr Jones

I write regarding the Liquid Lounge nightclub in Worthing and it's possible licence revocation.

I was most surprised at this news. I have visited the bar on many occasions over numerous years with friends and family and have found it to be a wonderful venue, friendly and professional staff and have always felt safe and secure there. The doorman even help us get taxis at the end of the night.

The club is an integral part of Worthing town centre and would be sorely missed, not just to it's patrons but to the local businesses and the town as a whole.

I would hope these comments are taken into consideration in any decision.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Upper Shoreham Road  
Shoreham by Sea  
West Sussex  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Appendix F 27

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 20 December 2012 15:36  
To: Simon Jones  
Subject: Liquid Lounge nightclub & Light bar

Afternoon Simon,

For at least 10 years my soon to be wife and myself have visited the above numerous times and hold nothing but fond memories.

The charity functions held must have been very supportive in all respects of the charities involved.

We can both confirm in our experiences the venues have always been professionally run with a happy/friendly atmosphere.

Thanks and Happy Christmas

[REDACTED]

---

From: Simon.Jones@adur-worthing.gov.uk  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Liquid Lounge nightclub & Light bar  
Date: Thu, 20 Dec 2012 17:03:22 +0000

Dear Mr Carver

I need your home address to classify your email as a relevant representation.

Regards

**Simon Jones - Senior Licensing Officer**  
**[Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council](#)**  
Location: Adur Civic Centre  
Internal: 63191 | External: 01273 263191  
Email: [simon.jones@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:simon.jones@adur-worthing.gov.uk)

---

Hi Simon,

My previous address was [REDACTED] Old London Road, Washington, West Sussex  
[REDACTED]

My current address is [REDACTED] Church Lane, Graveley, Cambs PE19 6PW.

However most my friends and family still live in the area and we visit and socialise regually in the Liquid Lounge & Light Bar.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Our ref: PB

F.A.O. Simon Jones  
Licensing Officer Worthing Borough Council

14 December 2012

Dear Sir

RE: Liquid Lounge Nightclub & Light Bar

As a life long Worthing resident I have used the above mentioned nightclub and bar on many occasions. I have never experienced any trouble in either venue and have always found the premises to be professionally run.

Without this bar and club there would be a distinct lack of night time venues in the Worthing area.

I sincerely hope their license is retained so myself, friends and colleagues can continue to use the venues for years to come.

Yours Sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

## Appendix F 29

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** "simonjones@adur-worthing.gov.uk" <simonjones@adur-worthing.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 December 2012, 21:00  
**Subject:** Light Bar & Liquid Lounge Licence

Dear Simon

Re: Light Bar and Liquid Lounge Licence

I am writing with regards to the possible revoking of the above licence, and wish to voice my disapproval of this action.

I have known both Barry Wells and Peter Mott on personal level for over 20 years. Both are professional businessmen who run the Light Bar and Liquid Lounge with integrity and professionalism. Both the bar and club are an essential part of the Worthing social/leisure scene ensuring that young people both local and further afield have somewhere fun and safe to go to during the evenings. This in turn also brings business to the smaller bars and pubs within Worthing.

Barry and Peter have heavily invested their lives into both the Light Bar and Liquid Lounge, and continually look for ways to improve the facilities on offer which they do frequently, not to mention successfully. The Light Bar and Liquid Lounge are the places to go to at night in Worthing!

To revoke the licence of these two venues would not only have a detrimental effect on the local social community, but also on the local economy leaving many unemployed, and other pubs losing business too.

I sincerely hope that you will take my comments into consideration when coming to your final decision.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Rowan Avenue  
Hove  
East Sussex  
[REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2012 08:47  
**To:** Simon Jones  
**Subject:** Liquid Lounge

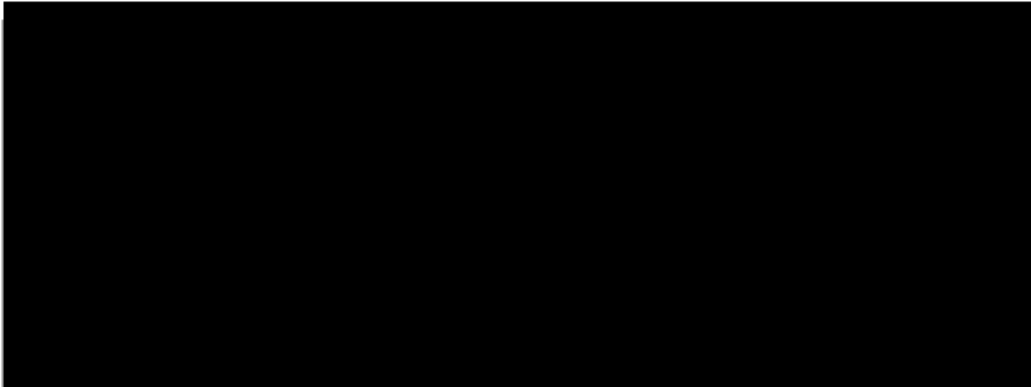
Dear Mr Jones,

I have known Barry Wells and Peter Mott for some 20 years.  
As such as a younger man I enjoyed their night club offering but more importantly all three of my children now aged 27 ,24 and 21 enjoy or enjoyed the safety ,and care that is to be found in the Liquid Lounge.  
As a local person who has grown up in the town I am fairly alert to some of the local challenges . Also an employer locally I have my ear to the ground and it is clear that this night club is head and shoulders above many of the other establishments in its approach to security and the exclusion of drugs.  
It would be most unfortunate if this venue was closed since according to my family its standards are far higher than most so closure will simply drive night clubbers to less favourable venues.  
Please have the position reconsidered for the safety of our next generation who need the qualities that are found at this venue.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Downview Road Worthing [REDACTED]



Licensing Officer  
Worthing Borough Council



December 5<sup>th</sup> 2012

Dear Sir,

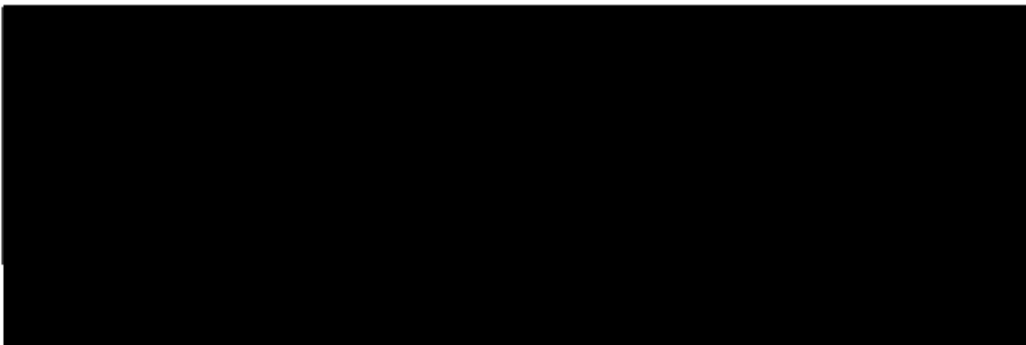
I write with regards the ongoing licensing issues at the Liquid Lounge Nightclub & Light Bar.

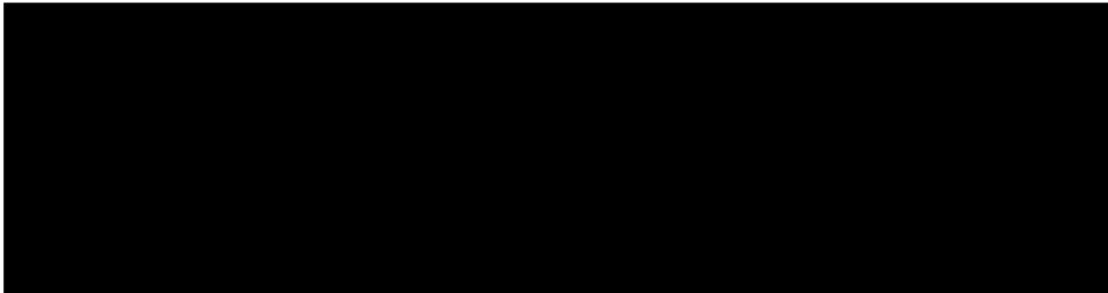
To be honest my nightclub days are now long gone but I was a regular at these premises during my younger years. I never experienced any trouble and my overall impression was that this was a well organised and professionally run nightclub. I have been to plenty of other places that weren't!!

So comfortable with the set up I now happily let my teenage daughter attend the under 16 disco safe in the knowledge that she is enjoying herself in a controlled environment. I dread to think where these teenagers and the regular weekend crowd will end up if these premises are closed. I do hope the powers that be within the council have taken this into account. I can assure you that as a parent I am much happier knowing exactly where my daughter is.

We have made too many short sighted decisions in this town and the potential loss of Worthing's only decent nightclub can only be step back in time. I do hope that all opinions are taken into consideration before any drastic decisions are arrived at.

Yours sincerely

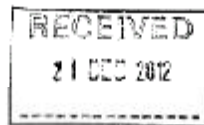




Licensing Office  
Worthing Borough Council  
Chapel Road  
Worthing

Att Mr Simon Jones

7th December 2012



Dear Sir

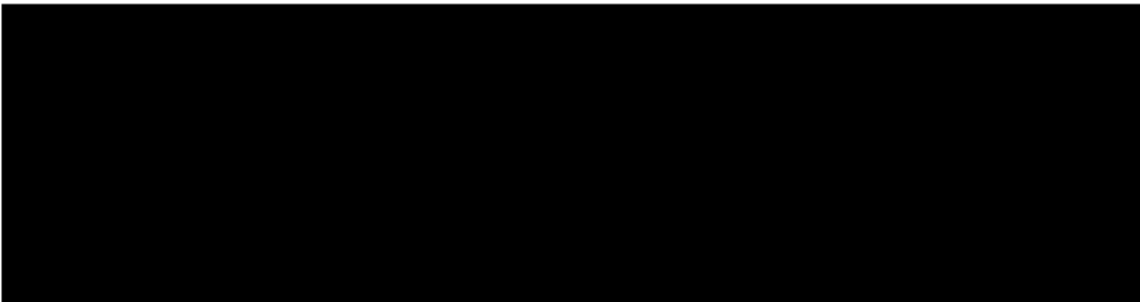
Re Liquid Lounge and Light Bar



I understand that the above businesses are having problems renewing their license. As a local business man whose children have grown up in the town I can confirm that they have used the above facilities for many years from the under 18's and children's discos to the adult's nightclub and bar. They have never had any bad experiences and it has formed a major part of their social lives.

I think it is important for the younger generations to have suitable recreational facilities in the town and the closing of another nightclub would result in more people on the streets as soon as the pubs close which would probably cause more antisocial behaviour.

It is my opinion that the business is well run by Peter Mott and Barry Wells and they would have my support in obtaining a new license.

Yours faithfully



  
Kyoto Court  
Bognor Regis  
West Sussex  


RECEIVED  
21 DEC 2012

9th December

Simon Jones  
Licensing Officer  
Worthing Borough Council  
Worthing  
West Sussex

Dear Simon

I am writing to you regarding the Liquid Lounge nightclub and Light Bar, Chatsworth Road, Worthing.

I have learned; through a local social media campaign, that there is a possibility that the aforementioned establishment's licenses are currently under scrutiny from your department due to concerns regarding management and safety and police incidents.

I do not claim to be an expert in nightclub management or other such matters, but have visited the nightclub and bar on numerous occasions in recent years and have not seen any evidence of mismanagement, especially when I compare my experiences to other such venues in West Sussex. However, I have witnessed:

- Door and bar staff alike, acting with diligence relating to patrons of the establishments who were visibly intoxicated.
- Management and door staff operating what appeared to be a consistent and vigilant entry policy.
- Door staff assisting members of the police force with isolated incident, as they have occurred.

These factors and others such as the cleanliness, friendliness of staff and good standard of facilities all contribute to a general feeling of ease and safety in a positive environment, in my opinion.

Whilst I understand that there will always be 'incidents' with such establishments, to blame these on the management (without due evidence to suggest fault) is a rather narrow minded approach, especially when difficulty in society as a whole; particularly in the younger generation, is prevalent.

I feel that the revocation of the license of the establishments would have a negative impact on the socio economic condition of Worthing town, with the loss of jobs and a 'knock on' effect relating to other businesses in the town. All of this in a time when we should be encouraging growth and working in partnership with local businesses to promote success.

I hope that this matter is resolved fairly and quickly.

Yours sincerely



## Appendix F 34

Subj: **Letter Of Support**  
Date: 19/12/2012 16:58:58 GMT Standard Time  
From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]

For the attention of Simon Jones

Please take this email as confirmation of support for the business Liquid Lounge. I believe it is a great business that offers a safe environment for a variety of people to go in an evening. The staff that work there are always very helpful, friendly and professional at all times and on a night out I feel safe to spend my time there.

As you can see I work at a local business a few doors down from Liquid Lounge and I believe it would be a real shame to see a fellow business be closed down after 18 great years.

Kind regards



Appendix F 35

Subj: **Liquid Lounge - Opposing Closure**  
Date: 19/12/2012 14:48:11 GMT Standard Time  
From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]  
Dear Mr. Jones,



I am sorry to hear that the Police are currently trying to revoke Liquid Lounge's license, I have visited the Nightclub and Bar on many occasions over the last 8-9 years and have never been a victim to any altercations etc.

I have always found the doormen/staff to have worked to the best of their ability to ensure that those overly intoxicated or causing problems are refused entry or removed as quickly as possible to ensure that the evening is not ruined for everyone else.

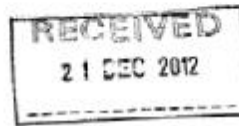
The problem here is not with Liquid Lounge or it's staff, it is with a small population of people that live in Worthing that insist on causing a scene wherever they go.

*If Liquid Lounge's License is revoked this will not solve the problem, these people will simply move on to another bar/club within the area and carry on in exactly the same way.*

I think it would be a great shame and unjust for the License to be revoked and hope that you consider what I have written before making a decision.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Chapel Road,  
Worthing,  
BN11 1BJ



8 December 2012

Simon Jones  
Licensing Officer  
Worthing Borough Council  
Worthing  
West Sussex

Dear Simon

I am writing to you regarding the possible revocation of the license of Liquid Lounge nightclub and The Light Bar in Chatsworth Road, Worthing.

I am 22 years old and live in Worthing and I work as cabin crew for easyJet and also as a support worker for adults with learning disabilities and mental health problems.

Having worked behind the bar at Liquid Lounge between 2008-2012, I can categorically, unquestionably confirm that the establishment is a safe and extremely professionally run business.

In 2010, Liquid Lounge allowed me to host a charity event in part of the nightclub to raise funds for St Barnabas hospice, a local hospice, that most people will have an emotional link to. Liquid Lounge supplied me with the leaflets, flyers and tickets for this event. Also they provided a DJ and a glass of champagne for all guests. They provided this all free of charge. The night was a brilliant success and altogether, my sister and I, raised nearly £6,000 for the charity. This incredible figure, would simply not have been possible without the support from Liquid Lounge and Pete Mott.

I am also aware that Liquid Lounge has hosted many other charity nights and has made a significant difference to lots of charities. They have also supported many local business by letting them use venues for business meetings, christmas parties etc.

I hear that the reason the license may be revoked is due to the concern the establishment is not managing violence or alcohol abuse correctly. I would like to confirm that during my time working at Liquid Lounge, I only ever saw impeccable management by the management and the door staff.

Examples of this are:

- . Great communication between bar staff and door staff and management
- . Always enough highly trained door staff on duty
- . Customers who were visibly too intoxicated being refused entry or escorted out of the building
- . Known 'troublemakers' being refused entry
- . Bar staff being trained on how to recognize when a customer is 'too intoxicated'

It goes without saying that in any nightclub there will be the occasional 'incident'.

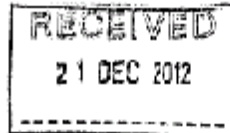
I would also like to bring to mind, that people tend to exaggerate about incidents in order to make them sound more interesting or exciting to peers. For example, if I had

witnessed whilst working, bearing in mind I would be completely sober working as I drove home, a male being ejected from the club by door staff, a friend of mine who was out partying and who had witnessed the same event, would describe the chain of events in a complete different (often more negative) light.

I hope you have understood my letter and come to realise that you must not allow the revocation of the license of Liquid Lounge and The Light Bar.

Yours sincerely





Simon Jones  
Licensing Officer  
Worthing Borough Council

08/12/12

Dear Simon

I am writing to you in relation to the Liquid Lounge and Light Bar, Chatsworth Road, Worthing.

It has come to our attention that the licence may be revoked due to concerns regarding management, safety and police incidents.

May I state from my experience and that of the numerous Learning Disabled and vulnerable people that we support to live independently in the community that the Liquid Lounge is an invaluable positive part of the community and should be maintained and supported to continue its creative role in providing a safe environment for all.

Our Service users regularly frequent Liquid Lounge and speak positively of the Door staff's safe caring professionalism and the attentive bar personnel. They feel at ease and fully integrated into the community.

The Liquid Lounge management have on numerous occasions provided their facilities for charity events and functions, which have enabled many vulnerable people to feel fully included in society and the local community.

To attempt to revoke the licence will have a detrimental impact on the whole community we need to support, encourage and facilitate community hubs of this stature. The Liquid Lounge is a major contributor to social integration and we sincerely hope it will continue to do so.

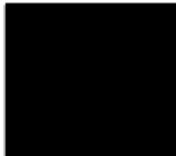
Yours Sincerely





RM/WP

6th December 2012



Dear Mr Mott

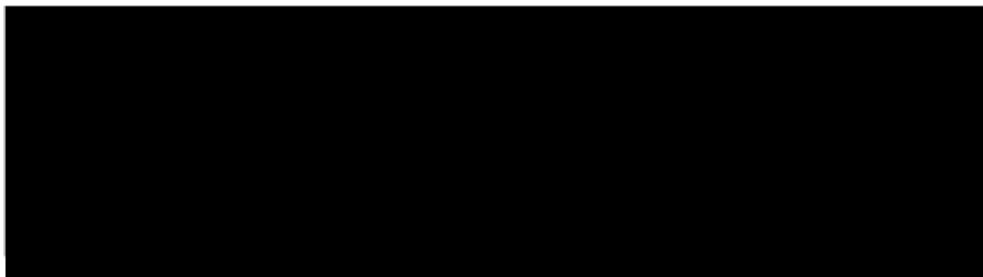
**Re : Liquid Lounge Nightclub & Light Bar – Atten Mr Simon Jones**

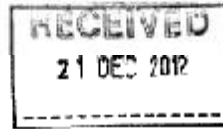
I am writing to offer my support in regards to the licence for the above.

Having lived in Worthing for over 40 years and having gradually seen the towns decline, it is obviously so important for Worthing to have a professionally run nightclub business catering for all age groups such as the above.

We are all too well aware of the negative issues faced by the town and losing a venue such as this would be another nail in the fast closing coffin that is Worthing Town Centre!

Yours sincerely





█ Sunnyside Close

Angmering



20<sup>th</sup> December 2012

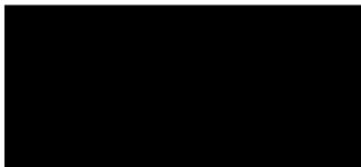
Hi Simon Jones

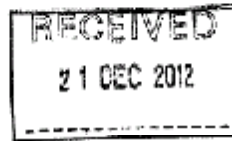
I am a student at Davison High School and I am writing to support Liquid Lounge.

My friends and I have been to Liquid loads of times when they have had the under 16 nights. We love it there and because of our age our mums won't yet let us go to Brighton so it gives us a chance to do something different aside from sitting in the parks at a weekend.

We have never seen any trouble there and one time we couldn't get a taxi home James the manager phoned my mum for us so we could get a lift and he wouldn't let us out until she arrived - my mum was totally impressed!!

Teenagers need somewhere safe to go at weekends and there is nowhere else that feels as safe as Liquid or that offers stuff for our age group.





[REDACTED] Savington Road

Worthing

West Sussex

[REDACTED]

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012

Dear Simon Jones

I write in support of the Liquid Lounge staying open.

I am a local parent with 3 teenagers who 'need' somewhere safe and local to go at weekends.

Most weekends my kids are asking for lifts to and from the club and whilst parenting carries a degree of worry in any situation, I can honestly say that the door staff (who by now probably know me!) certainly act in such a professional manner when I drop off and collect my children that I feel reassured that they will be 'safe'.

I have had dealings with the management due to my oldest wanting her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday at Liquid Lounge and I was impressed with the way that they were so thorough with 'health and safety' advice and genuine concern for what my daughter wanted and what would be appropriate – I felt assured that the concern was for the safety and enjoyment of my daughter and her friends rather than the money they would gain from the booking – how refreshing!

I feel it would be a great loss to lose the club as it is a safe, fun environment for youngsters to 'hang out' locally – as a parent of three lively, fun loving teenagers I would worry what they would do to fill their time at weekends and I am sure that other parents in a similar situation would share my concerns.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Appendix F 41



Northbrook Trading Estate  
Northbrook Road, Worthing  
West Sussex  
Email: info@  
Web: ww

RECEIVED  
21 DEC 2012

20<sup>th</sup> December 2012

Attn: Simon Jones – Licensing Officer Worthing Borough Council

Dear Sir

I am writing this letter in support of The Liquid Lounge club in worthing.

A large amount of our work is from Liquid Lounge and as a result has created jobs for electricians within our company, we have been also able to offer apprenticeships to local school leavers on the back of the amount of work required at the club. Each time we have had contact with the staff and management at Liquid Lounge we have found the situation both pleasant and extremely professional.

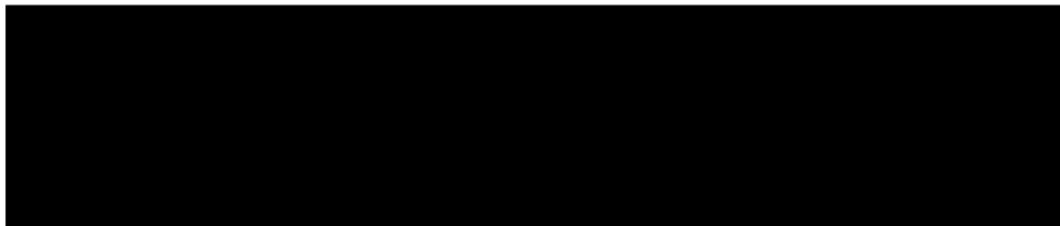
I can honestly say from a business perspective that should the management have the license revoked there would most definitely be a knock on effect on the finances within our company to which there could possibly resulting in redundancies and I can only assume that this would also impede on other trades that rely on Liquid Lounge for work.

So as the Managing Director of [REDACTED] I personally ask you to help us as a local business support our client to enable them to continue providing us with future work.

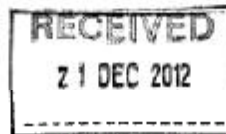
Yours sincerely



Managing Director



18<sup>th</sup> December 2012



Dear Mr Simon Jones

It is with total disbelief that I recently heard that the Worthing police force wish to revoke the licence of both the liquid lounge and the light bar. Do the police in this town think that the closure of any premises where people go to unwind and enjoy themselves after a hard week at work, within this district will mean that Worthing will become the first trouble free zone in the whole of the country?

It is a fact of life that people need to enjoy themselves, it is also a fact of life that sometimes people do get carried away and go a little overboard on occasion. It is the job of the police force to deal with those people when that happens. If people never misbehaved they would not have a job.

As a night time taxi driver, whose job it is to take people home after a night out in Worthing, many having visited either Liquid Lounge or Light Bar, I feel I am reasonably qualified to comment on the matter.

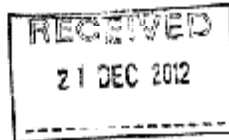
In my opinion there is relatively little trouble in the town at night. Pubs and nightclubs take their responsibilities to their customers very seriously. I have taken many people home who have been refused entry to either of the above mentioned premises because they have been deemed to be too drunk. I have quite happily taken these people home as I have not considered them to drunk but, the clubs and pubs do tend to refuse entry to anyone on a very strict basis.

There will always be some people who go overboard but I have always found the staff at Liquid Lounge to be very concerned with their welfare. They have made sure that people are directed to a taxi and that they are taken home safely, even, on occasion when they have been refused entry. I have always found them to be well run premises.

I do hope that the police will reconsider this proposal as it will serve to only ruin the night life of many, many people who just want to behave themselves and have a good night out in Worthing. I'm sure that I don't even have to make mention the amount of jobs that would be affected, (either directly or indirectly) by the closure of these premises. In this time of recession I would not have thought it a good idea to needlessly put more people out of a job.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] western Road  
Sompting  
West Sussex  
[REDACTED]

18<sup>th</sup> Decemeber 2012



Dear Simon Jones

I wish to object to the police seeking to revoke the licence of The Liquid Lounge and The Light Bar.

I have personally enjoyed many trouble free nights out at these premises over the years. I have always felt safe when visiting them. There has been the odd occasion when trouble has flared but it has always been dealt with very quickly and responsibly. This is exactly the way in which these type of premises should be run.

On a second note, I would also like to point out that I run my own cleaning company and I am responsible for the cleaning of both the above premises. Needless to say that if these premises are closed I will have to review my staffing levels. In these hard times putting people out of work is not what I want to do, they will have little hope of finding another job.

I am sure that my company will not be the only company that will have to review their staffing levels if these premises are closed.

This decision will affect everyone from the bar staff who work there, the delivery drivers, the brewery's that supply them, the night security staff, taxi drivers, burger van and other food outlets and many more,

[REDACTED]  
Western Road  
Sompting  
Lancing [REDACTED]