

The Licensing Team
North Devon Council
Lynton House, Commercial Road
Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1DG

Appledown Property Solutions Limited


19 October 2021

Dear Sirs

Ref Rumours, 42 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, EX31 1SE



I refer to the notice at the above premises for a review of the premises licence and would like to make representation as an occupier of a neighbouring property.

Our property is The Riser, 87 Boutport Street, Barnstaple which is immediately opposite. It has been closed since December 2019 and was scheduled to re-open as a carvery business in July 2021 when the Covid -19 restrictions were lifted. It has not yet done so, in part, due to the issues arising from Rumours during the last six months or so.

These include:-

1. Underage drinking – the door staff have even been seen socialising outside the premises with intoxicated youngsters who have left the premises.
2. Drinks promotions which would appear to be outside licensing arrangements. For example 45 shots for £45 in one purchase.
3. Unruly behaviour outside the premises not controlled by the staff. Fights have also been witnessed with one person being seriously injured during the night of 4/5.9.21 resulting in the persons head being struck against a front window and breaking it. The road was closed for some time to enable the emergency services to deal with the incident.
4. Customers of the premises have been found urinating at the rear of our premises. We have installed lighting in attempt to prevent such behaviour but it hasn't worked.
5. My co- director has witnessed drug dealing outside of the premises. A person dealing in drugs at Rumours also attempted to break into our premises and threaten him & his partner on 9.9.21.

All of the above has contributed to us being fearful of opening as some of our customers might be intimidated by the actions of those frequenting Rumours. The place, at times, seems to be out of control and has become a magnet for the most unsavoury of people.

I implore that you now take appropriate action. The issues have been on-going for a significant period of time.

Yours faithfully,


Nigel G Angrave
Director