

Durham Police
Force HQ
Aykley Heads
Durham

CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 53A(1)(b) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

I hereby certify that in my opinion the premises described below are associated with serious crime / serious disorder / both serious crime and serious disorder¹.

*Premises*²:
The Flintlock Inn
48 High Street,
West Cornforth,
Ferryhill
Durham
DL17 9HS

Premises licence number (if known): DCCSP/PLA0006

Name of premises supervisor (if known): Nicola Jane BUSH

I am a Superintendent ³ in the Durham
police force.

I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that other procedures under the Licensing Act are inappropriate in this case, because⁴:

At 7.48pm on Monday 25th February 2013 a call was received from a female stating that there had been a disturbance at the Flintlock PH and that members of the informants family had been threatened with shotguns.

At 8.05pm the same day a call was received from a female named [REDACTED] who along with [REDACTED] were managing, and had control of The

¹ Delete as applicable.

² Include business name and address and any other relevant identifying details.

³ Insert rank of officer giving the certificate, which must be superintendent or above.

⁴ Give a brief description of why other procedures such as a standard review process are thought to be inappropriate, e.g. the degree of seriousness of the crime and/or disorder, the past history of compliance in relation to the premises concerned.

Flintlock at the time of the incident. [REDACTED] reported that a number of travellers had been in the premise and had been asked to leave. Following this information has come to light that they would return with knives and machetes. It is apparent that this information given by [REDACTED] is inaccurate and the full picture has not been given to the police at the time of reporting.

An argument has occurred in the Flintlock involving a number of persons who are linked to serious violent crime and disorder. The individuals have left and returned wearing ski masks and brandishing at least one sawn off shotgun. It is a serious criminal offence to possess a shotgun and use it in such a manner.

The shotgun and knives and baseball bats have been used to threaten and inflict injuries to parties inside of the Flintlock. These actions are serious criminal offences. The injuries sustained by individuals include stab and slash wounds, double fracture of wrist, wound to crown of head and numerous cuts and bruises. Extreme violence has been threatened with the shotgun on an individual in the premise.

The suspects in relation to this violent incident are linked to the control and operation of the Flintlock. One male who has been arrested in relation to this matter was on the night in question operating a managerial role at the pub and is closely associated with other suspects yet to be arrested. The manageress [REDACTED] had access to the CCTV within the premise. The monitor and recording device is located upstairs in the domestic dwelling area of the public house and could only be accessed by management. The CCTV was intentionally switched off for 40 minutes during the whole violent incident.

The Designated Premise Supervisor Nicola Bush has shown little commitment to attending the premise and providing day to day control and accountability. She has left the running of the premise in the hands of [REDACTED]. Following this incident the police have been unable to contact Nicola Bush and her mobile has been disconnected. The police have had concerns as to the viability of Nicola Bush being a DPS as she rarely attends the premise or is associated with its operation.

The Flintlock Public House is associated with serious crime and disorder. The offences committed meet the definition of serious offences as defined by reference to Sec 81 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

Such are my concerns in relation to this premise that I have directed that a closure order be issued under the provisions of section 161 of the Licensing Act 2003.

It is my firm belief that should The Flintlock Public House remain open, then there will be further incidents of violence, serious crime and disorder. There is an ongoing feud between a number of violent individuals of which The Flintlock is a key location for disorder and future disorder.

It is the request of Durham Police that the Licensing Authority take interim steps to remove Nicola Bush as the Designated Premise Supervisor and suspend the licence number DCCSP/PLA0006 with immediate effect.



Sy 1123

26.2.2013

(Signed)

(Date)