

RESPONSE TO ALLEGED INCIDENTS

FROM SIEGE OF ORLEANS

The Siege of Orleans follows the 4 licensing objectives in operating as a licensed premises.

The alleged incidents that have been reported are NOT accurate representations of the environment in the Siege.

Drug use is not tolerated and never will be

20th June.. This was a Sunday and the overall takings of the bar were £63! and there were no customers taking cocaine as everyone was known to staff and remained within the bar area

3rd June.. The Manager Emily Rutter was not at work that day, so this could not have taken place with her presence. Furthermore, Emily's personal anti-drug stance would never allow an incident like this to occur.

15th May. There was no reported incident of females using drugs in the toilets. Although females do attend the bathroom in pairs regularly (in all venues), there was no evidence this had taken place.

7th May. There is never an occasion where a "lock in" would be allowed. STAFF remain on the premises cleaning, restocking and cashing up after hours. The allegation that "believed to be" is unsubstantiated.

POLICE DRUG SWABS

The most recent reading is of major concern to the premises, however we have shown historically to action this and put measures in place, which have resulted in future drug swabs to be recorded at zero levels.

Other premises have had high and much higher drug swab readings in the past, but not had their licensing hours cut as a result??

29th June.. This incident was NOT seen by any other customers or staff and was not taken any further. It was an isolated incident between a male and a female, where the male verbally abused the female. Both were told to leave the premises after it became clear they had thrown drinks over each other.

13th May.. No Staff called the RAF Police. As far as the bar is concerned, it was an accident with a very old 2nd hand table. The patron was excited and asked to get down and reminded of their behaviour.

29th April.. No STAFF members recall serving any group of travellers as we were FULLY BOOKED. This incident was not related to The Siege Of Orleans

23rd April No STAFF called the RAF Police and the Manager called the Police after the incident. The parties involved had been removed from the Siege earlier in the night and had then returned to the area. Policies were reviewed after this but it was deemed that the staff had done everything in their power to prevent this event and dealt with the aftermath responsibly.

The dates on which the alleged incidents occurred were all during the employment of a Mikaela Howe / Dennis. Her employment has since been terminated as she was shown to have lied to and undermined the manager and the business.

There is also a lack of notes in the police report where NTE patrols praised the STAFF and MANAGEMENT for their procedures and control of the premises, which has happened on a regular occurrence.

From April 12th to May 17th, The Siege of Orleans was the only open licensed premises in Carterton. These brought about many challenges which the business had not faced before. It was also a time where the public were understandably scared with the easing of COVID 19 restrictions.

It meant that all focus was on us and we accepted patrons from all the other establishments, which did indeed bring a different side to things as far as covid was concerned.

The bar is "over trading" but operating safely and within the guidelines.

I have always as a licensee worked with the authorities , but must stress that I only received the information in the Police Report AFTER submitting a TEN.

I do not believe the bar represents something that will lead to increased levels of crime and disorder and it is actually a place where large parts of the community come together in an inclusive, respectful, independent and hospitable environment.