

From: Yhnell Craig [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: 24 January 2020 11:36
To: Environmental.Health
Cc: CouncillorJudith Holt; CouncillorPhilippa Crowder; [REDACTED]; Paul Jones
Subject: RE: Express Kebab House 171 South Street Romford; ref SRU 125178'

Dear Sir/Madam,

Following the below email from Paul Jones, I am writing to you today to stress my concerns and make a serious noise complaint / public disturbance against Essex Kebab House located on 171 South St, Romford RM1 1PS. For the record, I reside at 46 Station Parade, South Street, Romford, RM1 2BX, which is situated directly above the kebab shop.

Firstly, please see attached all of the letters that I have sent to the council outlining in detail some of the antics that take place outside of the Kebab shop. I would appreciate every single one these letters being thoroughly read, as it clearly outlines the sickening behaviour that goes on.

Furthermore, I would like to restate again that the kebab shop is the main instigator of everything that goes on. If the kebab shop wasn't there, then there would be no trouble or noise at all. The people who own the kebab shop do not take any duty of care in what happens directly outside of their shop even though they are situated in local residency, which is awful in itself. I have video evidence of a car parked outside of the kebab shop (in the bus lane, which I believe is illegal) blaring music full volume, while one of the kebab shop workers is standing next to the car smoking a cigarette and having conversation with one of the men in the vehicle.

I have another video of a person standing outside of the kebab shop once more blaring music full volume from a wireless speaker phone, smoking and drinking alcohol on the streets. A police wagon with multiple police officers drives past the shop, sits at the red lights directly next to them and does absolutely nothing. Surely if someone is drinking alcohol and playing loud music in a local residential area, then the police must intervene and move the people away from the premises. It was then that I realised I had to start phoning 999 and reporting all of these complaints and situations down.

I also have another video of around 15-20 people all hanging around outside of the shop. 2 or 3 boys then begin to argue and start trying to fight each other. When people are making noise, it isn't just loud talking, it's screaming, screeching and it is constant for hours and hours. Once people have brought their food, they should then be moved on away from the premises. It is not a social gathering point for people to come from the hours of 2:00am to 5:00am, Thursday to Sunday and hang out, drink alcohol, smoke drugs (which does happen regularly) play loud music, scream, shout, fight each other and vandalise.

Every single Sunday evening, so the early hours of Monday morning around 2:00am the same group of black males and females come to the kebab shop to hang around for hours on end. They scream, they screech, they swear, they shout vile and

disgusting things, they smoke drugs, they play music on speak phones, and one week decided to vandalise the roadwork equipment that was on the street. One guy took it upon himself to start screaming, kicking and throwing the equipment all over the street and road, continuously booting the shop shutters and then sprinted across the road to start booting the traffic light pole.

Last night the kebab shop was supposed to close at 2:00am, but it remained open till 4:00am. When the kebab shop is supposed to close at 4:00am it remains open till 5:00am. It is absolutely ludicrous a kebab shop should be allowed open until these sorts of time, let alone one situated directly in a local residential area. The couple that live in the flat below me have young baby. I cannot even begin to imagine the grief and stress it is causing on their lives.

The fact of the matter is the kebab shop is the main instigator to everything that happens outside of it. They do absolutely nothing to control it, and clearly do not care what happens outside of it on its premises. There is no duty of care whatsoever. The last time I checked fighting, vandalising, smoking drugs and causing loud disturbance in a public place were all **illegal**.

I am a young man with aspiring goals to do well and be successful in my life. I go to work every single day and I work hard. I am currently working for a large Wealth Management company in the city. My job can be difficult, challenging and at times very stressful. Currently I am working in an assistant role to financial advisers and would like to be a financial adviser one day myself. However, this means that I must study and sit multiple examinations in my own personal time. Therefore, my studying takes place in my own time. The fact that from Thursday to Sunday I'm unable to get a decent night's sleep severely affects my studying time and how much I am able to do. Why should my potential future be affected and ruined by inconsiderate people not taking responsibility for their own actions.

You may be reading this and think that I'm overreacting. Should that be the case, then I invite you to let me come and stand outside of your home, your personal and private space and let me do all of the things I have told you, for the entire weekend, 4 days a week, every single week, for the next of 5 years. Maybe then you might understand the emotional distress I have been forced to go through, and yes **forced** to go through considering I have absolutely no say about when I am able to go to sleep in my **own home**.

To conclude, the only rightful conclusion to solve this situation is to remove the kebab shop from the premises it currently occupies. They are clearly not fit and proper to own and keep control of their shop and all of the illegal activities that take place are because of it. I would be more sympathetic towards them should I have seen any kind of actions to stop what goes on outside, but not once in the 5 years that I have lived there have I ever seen anyone working there try to do anything. I would also like to point out that they are not the only fast food shop / restaurant situated below me. There are at least another 2 shops along the row of shops below me and both of those shops are shut before 12:00pm.

I am unable to attached the video recordings that I have due to the size limits.
Therefore, if somebody could provide me with a mobile number I can send these to you via WhatsApp.

I shall look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Kind regards,

Craig Yhnell

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23rd October 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Noise Complaint

My name is Craig Yhnell; I am 24 years old and currently reside in a flat, which is on South Street. My flat is located directly above the bus stop where, Charles Stratton, Londis and Express Kebab House are. I have been living there since April 2015, so around four and a half years, and it has now got to the point where the noise I have to deal with is becoming unbearable. I have tried to block it out as much as I can over the past four and a half years, but the time has come where enough is enough.

Express Kebab House is open until the early hours of the morning on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. As there are multiple bars, pubs and clubs minutes down the road, drunken people make their way to the kebab shop around 2am all the way through until 5am every single Thursday, Friday and Saturday, every single weekend, every single year. On most occasions, there must be roughly 20-30 drunken people at once all screaming and shouting continuously for 3 hours. In the four and a half years that I have lived here, there has been at least 20 fistfights, and uncountable arguments.

I have tried my best to try and deal and block out all of this insanely disturbing noise, but after roughly 234 weekends I have reached my limit. I and all of the other tenants' who live in the radius of the kebab shop, should not have to put up with this disturbing noise every single weekend, in our own homes.

In my normal nature, I am not one to complain and perhaps seem so petty, as I am a 24 year old myself. I work in Central London for a Discretionary Investment Management firm on the financial planning team, with aspirations to be a financial adviser myself in the near future. I am still of youth and go out drinking socially in London and locally on the weekends like any other normal person in their 20s. However, I should not be awoken as I am on the weekends in my own free time, especially when it is between 2-5am and I am trying to sleep. I invite you or one of your colleagues to take a few trips over a few weekends and witness it for yourself if you think I am exaggerating or being dramatic.

Over the last few weeks, I have been making video recordings as evidence to what has been going on. On Sunday 20th October, a man and his friend were standing outside the front of the kebab shop talking with the security guard, while playing music via a wireless Bluetooth speaker, as loud as if it were a club (this is not an exaggeration). This started around 1am, to which I shouted out of my window asking them to turn off the music. The music restarted 10 minutes later and did not stop until 5am. I have video evidence of the security guard doing nothing to stop their actions and instead chat with them. I also have video evidence of a police van filled with multiple officers' stop at the lights outside of the kebab shop, drive off and take no action whatsoever. I would also like to point out that google states the shop is only open until 4am. However, the shop is always open until 5am, meaning they are staying open past the time they legally have a licence for, which is illegal. They are doing this week, after week, after week. Another example of this would be last night. I was awoken at 2am by a group of around 10 girls, all screaming and shouting. Google states the kebab shop must close at 2am, yet it remained open until 3am. This again is not only illegal, but causes people to gather and hang around long after the shop closes. Therefore, the group of people did not clear off until 4am on a Wednesday morning, when I have to be up for work at 6am. The only way I am able to block out the noise is by putting in my headphones, turning up the music to the maximum volume possible, and listening to music until the people have cleared. I finally managed to get back to sleep this morning at around 4:30am, to be up again at 6am. This makes me a prisoner in my own home. I or anyone else should not have to be a prisoner in their own home. These people dictate and decided when I am able to sleep.

Lastly, I would like to recommend my solution to this situation. At first, I believed changing the shops closing time to 12am. However, as the shop never obeys it's closing time anyway, I see no other option other than the shop moving location entirely.

I recently wrote and sent a letter similar to this one to my local MP, Andrew Rosindell, to which I have had no response at all. I do hope when reading this, it is taken as serious as it should be. I already suffer with anxiety and this situation is causing me serious emotional distress.

I shall look forward to hearing your response in due course and thank you for taking the time out to listen my problem.

Yours faithfully,

Craig Yhnell

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

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1st November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Noise Complaint

Following my recent letter dated 23rd October 2019, I am saddened that I have not had any kind of response from yourselves or my local MP. Therefore, I have decided that from now on, I will issue a letter every single time I am awoken and disturbed in the middle of the night, due to the noise from Essex Kebab House.

Last night, I was awoken at 2am to the noise of screaming and shouting from young drunken people outside my bedroom window. I got up to have a look outside of my window, to see around 20-30 people all standing around as if this place was a social gathering spot. At around 2:45-3:00am fireworks began to be set off by these drunken people directly outside of my home, in the middle of the street. The fireworks continued until around 3:30am and only stopped when the sound of police sirens could be heard. The noise and gathering of people continued until around 4:30-4:45am. Once again, the Kebab shop, which is licenced to stay open until 4:00am, remained open until at least 4:30am.

As this was only Thursday night, I still have tomorrow evening, Saturday evening and Sunday evening to put up with the same disturbance once more. I shall look forward to writing those letters over the weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Craig Yhnell

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

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4th November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Noise Complaint

Following my recent letter dated 1st November 2019, I am writing to you once again to make a complaint against Essex Kebab House.

In the early hours of Saturday morning, I was awoken at around 2:30am. Once more, there was around 20-30 people gathered outside of the kebab shop. For a short period (around 30 minutes) music was being played. There was excessively loud arguing and shouting between the hours of 2:30 – 5:00am. I would like to point out again that the kebab shop is supposed to shut at 4:00am, but once again, it remained open until at least 4:30am, 30 minutes past its licenced closing time. This meant the hanging around and shouting of people continued until around 5:00am.

In the early hours of Sunday morning, I was awoken at around 2:00am to the exact same scenario as the previous evening. The noise did not stop until 4:45am.

In the early hours of this morning (Monday morning), I was awoken at around 2:30am. A large group of black males were smashing bottles, throwing each other into shop shutters, while screaming and shouting as loud as they possibly could. They were also accompanied by a group of black females who were also shouting extremely loudly, entertaining the boys behaviour and encouraging them. This went on until around 5:00am this morning, meaning I was awoken at 2:30am and kept awake until I had to be up for work at 6:00am.

I would like to once more again stress the ongoing emotional distress this is causing me night after night, week, after week.

I shall look forward to this continued torture again this coming Thursday evening through to Monday morning. Or perhaps I'll dive head first out of my window to save myself the trouble.

Yours faithfully,

Craig Yhnell

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Email: [REDACTED]

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6th November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Noise Complaint

Following my recent letter dated 7th November 2019, I am writing to you once again to make a complaint against Essex Kebab House.

In the early hours of this morning, I was awoken at around 2:20am. Once again, there was a group of around 15-20 people hanging around outside of the kebab shop. One of the boys was getting louder and excited saying that he "was on a mad one" and "had been on a mad one for 8 days now". At around 2:45am, having had enough, I opened up my window and shouted down to them, asking if they could please move on if they had bought their food, to which I received a response off "fuck off you cunt". I did not bother replying and closed my window. They eventually cleared off at around 3:00am. I would like to point out again having searched online it confirms the shop is open until 2:00am. I have short video evidence on my mobile phone from last night, that the shop was still open at 2:34am.

I shall look forward to writing another letter later on this week.

Yours faithfully,

Craig Yhnell

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8th November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Noise Complaint

Following my recent letter dated 6th November 2019, I am writing to you once again to make a complaint against Essex Kebab House.

In the early hours of this morning, I was awoken at around 3:00am. There was around 15-20 people hanging around the kebab shop, shouting, swearing and so on. At around 3:30am, the shouting started to get even more intense. I looked out my window to see 3-4 people having a row trying to fight each other, only to be stopped by screaming girls in the middle breaking them apart from each other. One of the boys was continuously accusing one of the other boys of pulling a "blade" out on him and trying to knife him. I have video footage of some of the row on my phone, to once again evidence the ridiculous and insanely loud disruption I have to put up with when I am trying to sleep. The people finally cleared away from the kebab shop at around 5:00am. Once more, I googled the kebab shop to check what time it was supposed to have closed. It confirmed the shop was closed and had been since 2:00am. This clearly isn't the case, as the shop remained open until at least 4:45am.

Once more, as it is only Friday night, I shall look forward to more of this the entire weekend all the way through to Monday. I have an important exam I am sitting next week, which is vital to my career progression. To say the current situation I have to deal with is affecting that would be an understatement.

I shall look forward to writing my next letter come Monday morning.

Yours faithfully,

Craig Yhnell

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]