Dawn Ayres

From: mike edwards [redacted]

Sent: 24 October 2011 10:17

To: Rod Hotton; Mike Mendoza; Carson Albury; Richard Burt; Brian Coomber; Emma Evans; Darren Burns; Ann Bridges; Brenda Collard; Laura Graysmark; envsupport; Planning; Sherry boat yard; Dee boat yard; dave boat yard; babs boat yard

Subject: RE: Conduct of Roller Rink owners

Thank you Rod,
This clears a lot of things up. We were told they hadn't got a licence and didn't know they could get a temporary one. Naturally, it was building up a picture of them for us.
The owners of the yard had not informed us that they had given permission to use the toilet. As far as know we pay a service charge to use those toilets. Also, as council tax payers we are owed for the fact that we don't have a main sewers and would like more backing over the use of that only toilet (thank you for your suggestions to them regarding their own toilet). We have to use those toilets as much as we can, so we don't want to live in a sewage ourselves.

Relevant to this issue in many ways , is that we feel forgotten at the back of this parcel force building and vulnerable because the owner of the yard is abusive and disregarding of us. For example they knew and were in communication with the rink owners long before we knew about it and carved up most of the 'allowed' parking space for themselves. They tell us nothing and only do any repairs when the H&S people come around. For example the drain outside the shower building is blocked and the women have to trapes through ankle deep water to use the shower block in the freezing winter. Incidentally, the yard area used to be parking for the residents yet they have taken that over too- is that a through way? If so, are they allowed to take up that space for personal business? The rink owners told me that, according to the maps in your office, they only own the building space. Is this true? If this is the case will the council clear that drain please? Indeed, the rink people may well be getting the back logg of the communitys' anger over being mistresated for years by the yard owners. The owners have warned us not to allow the gates to be left open, not to let people in, not to produce loud noise etc - yet they have effectively opened up our comminity and abused us in the same way to carve up a larged portion of the car park for themselves- after they took the only parking space we used to use!
If you imagine the way we feel- we pay council tax, river tax, sevice charges to use the toilet and then a company moves next door , invades our space and has an all night rave! The ropes and tackle only make a racket when it is really windy, otherwise it is very peaceful here. Also, that's an acceptable little problem but hearing, even a low, continuous thudding bass, which is not an act of nature, is something else. On top of that living in thin wood walls makes it inescapable! Despite your short visit- would you like to be in a position of having to lsiten to that kind of music for all the hours they play it for? Surely, you can see that we are in a unique position in that we have no means of escape like house dwellers do? There is concern we can easily be forgotten and neglected so we have to stand up for oursleves. We are only asking for consideration and the fact that the boat yard owners and the rink owners have both, almost conspired against us, has casued us to react this way. At first we were as delighted as everybody else.
I like the idea of attending the meeting wiht them and, if possible, would like the boat yard owners to attend too. I have spoken to the male owner and he seemed reasonable but wiht the, behind the scenes, rehetoric coming from that camp and published on facebook, bloggs etc e.g. "they should move down the river", "they are lucky to live there" etc we have feared that once the licences have been granted they may become very unhelpful.

I must say Rod your last comment , "If you choose such a way of life, you do have to accept that there will be drawbacks at times" unfortunatley reflects the discriminatory barriers we have been up against. We pay for our boats, council taxes, river taxes, moorings fees and are by and large a community of professional residents who like the roller rinks owners work hard. We are residents that live in a certain type of dwelling, not squatters and have a right to be treated with the due respect as afforeded to any other tax paying members of the community. We would rather not be treated as though we are second class citizens as e.g. ...." you live on houseboats ...so you should expect problems or sale your boats down the river..."
Its such a shame that just because as we have chosen what was our tranquil lifestyle, that we are expected to accept the additional noise, persons using our facilities and wandering freely around our private space. I cant think of anyone else I know who having been directly affected would feel it

reasonable to not feel concerned about the matters presented.
Iam sure however that with respectful attidudes, positive communication and relevant controls this situation could be resolved to be a win /win outcome and look forward to that time.

Regards

Mike Edwards

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]

Date: Tue, 18 Oct 2011 09:15:15 +0100
Subject: RE: Conduct of Roller Rink owners

Dear Mr Edwards,

As I said I would, I have been seeking answers and I have been checking a few facts.

The Roller Rink people do have a temporary licence to sell alcohol, which covered the events of last weekend and the weekend before. Only the Police may lodge objections to a temporary licence. They have told me that they do not want to run a pub and plan to limit the sales of alcohol to events and private parties and expect this to be no more than once per month on average.

The Management of the Surry Boatyard and Marina gave the Roller Rink owners permission to use the toilet, for the events held last weekend. This would account for some of the trespass onto your site. I have suggested to the Management of the roller rink that they look to hiring temporary toilets during events which would mean there would be no need to enter the Marina site. This they have agreed to do.

The land on which you have been parking your cars belongs to the freeholder of the Parcel Force site, so technically you have been trespassing for many years. The Roller Rink owners have leased the whole site including the area you have been using for parking. They would be within their rights to stop residents of the Marina from parking there, but have agreed to allow you to continue to use it, as a gesture of goodwill.

Facebook is a legal and valid way of advertizing used by many people, businesses and organizations to advertis events and Services, but cannot be held accountable for comments made by others.

I am assured that they try to keep the noise down to a level that allows normal conversation and whilst i was visiting, that was the situation, but it was not a disco, rave or event that was taking place. They have added insulation and will look to improving this wherever possible. I am sure Environmental Health will continue to monitor the situation. I would make one comment though, whilst i was there, there was a strong SW gale blowing and the noise created by the wind blowing through the rigging of the boats stored in the Sussex Yacht Club was deafening when outside the roller rink building but could not be heard inside, which must say something about the insulation properties of the building.

Certainly the owners of the Roller Rink made mistakes concerning the need for a change of use permission, but that is now being redressed and their application will be discussed at a meeting of the Planning Committee in early November, i think the 7th. The Council not only has to keep the interests of residents in mind, they also have a duty to assist businesses, as this brings job opportunities to the area. We also have to seek ways to get empty buildings back into use. The committee will be able to add conditions to the permission, if they choose to allow the continued use of this building as a Roller Rink.

I have also suggested that I call a meeting of all parties concerned so that grievances can be aired and solutions found. I am more than happy to organize this, but it would have to be after the licence hearing, as I am fully comitted elsewhere. I have contacted Delia Hills In her capactty as Chair of your residents association, and she

has agreed. I will write again as soon as I have a date, time and venue.

Finally, as you say in your last paragraph, you live in what is effectively a wooden box . If you choose such a way of life, you do have to accept that there will be drawbacks at times.

Yours sincerely,
Cllr Rod Hotton
St Mary's Ward. Shoreham by Sea

From: mike edwards [redacted]
Sent: 17 October 2011 19:19
To: Mike Mendoza; Carson Albury; Richard Burt; Brian Coomber; Emma Evans; Darren Burns; Ann Bridges; Brenda Collard; Laura Graysmark; Rod Hotton; envsupport; Planning
Subject: Conduct of Roller Rink owners

Dear Councilors,

It is not a matter of objecting to the idea of a fun roller rink. Indeed, when we first heard of the change of function we were delighted. It's the way they are conducting themselves which has caused us so much concern.
First they had a rave when they bought the buidling without discussing it (before or after). There was no apology for keeping us all up all night.
Then they had discos and opend before planning prior to putting up any insulation- no discussion.
Then they sell alcohol prior to getting permission - even advertising their 'pub' on their facebook!
Then they use our toilet without discussion or concern for us as the boat yard residents
They consistantly threaten to take our parking away and use clamping companies if we continue to complain!

Further more I was looking through the Herold blogg the other day concerning the article about the noise. What a came across was a blogger who said he could be contacted about the roller rink (Luke Tims).
He said things like:
"They should move their boats down the river.."
"They are lucky they have been there so long"
"There is somehting wrong if there are OAPs there"
He also implied that they were hard working as if to suggest we are some kind of squatters. Most of us have professional jobs and a high level of education thank, you very much!

Think about how you would feel if the people opening a noisy disco next door thought of you like that? And if they were taking over your toilet, allowing people to walk around your drives and paths surrounding your house, threating to clamp your cars and saying things like that. Would you be concerned? They speak nice to everyone else but clearly despise having to give us respect as boat owners who pay taxes and work hard!

I think, as citizens and council tax payers we need protecting by at least insisting on much more sound proofing, getting their own toilets and a gurantee of parking which we have always had.
Indeed, as council tax payers, I feel very let down by the council for allowing this venue to open before permission had been granted. According to planning laws no establishment should be given permission to open early if noise is likely to be a product of its activity- Roller DISCO, sort of gives it away. The council should also consider that these are wooden boxes not houses with thick, solid walls. Our lives are more invaded by the noise levels and fact that we are so close to the building.

Please consider these points in your meetings

Thank you
Mike Edwards (sumaris)

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