

## **Response to concerns about late night disturbances that were raised with the Police at the Muswell Hill, Alexandra, Fortis Green and Highgate Area Forum on 27 June 2012.**

Following the Committee section of the meeting Cllr Newton wrote to the Borough Commander outlining residents concerns about continuing late night disturbances in connection with clubs around Muswell Hill Broadway and the Maynard Arms public house N8 and nearby clubs in Crouch End and the policing of these problems. The below response was received from Mark Long, Chief Inspector Neighbourhood Policing, Haringey Borough:

'Following your earlier email I tasked Inspector Adrian Ball to look into this matter and he has undertaken some research into these matters which involved liaising with the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams, visiting the local Ward Panel, visiting the licensed premises and looking at the call demand to the area between 7pm and 7am.

'Sgt McGrath (Crouch End) has a good relationship with the management of Kiss, The Sky and Moors Bar who are all supportive of police. He confirms there have been issues in the past with groups gathering, albeit fairly minor, but he has received no recent complaints.

'Insp Ball reports that the licensee of the Maynard seemed surprised to hear that there had been complaints regarding his clientele and he stated they were primarily a food based establishment targeting families. This was supported by Insp Ball's observations of the clientele. The licensee also stated that the only complaints from residents he has received, or been made aware of, concerned noise from the extractor fan or the stacking of chairs at closing. The management of the Villiers Terrace stated that they had received the occasional complaint re noise from the venue but nothing relating to activity occurring elsewhere but they did believe that some local residents were making malicious complaints for minor incidents.

'At the Muswell Hill ward panel meeting Cllr Jim Jenks stated he was aware of the issue being raised at the area forum although he had no knowledge of any specific incident or complainant.

The licensing officer, Pc Grieves has investigated anti-social behaviour and violence calls to Muswell Broadway and Muswell Hill since 1st Jan. He reports that we have had 12 crimes involving violence /disorder reported between 1900 - 0700 hours. All but one were confined to inside the clubs/pubs and three were robberies as opposed to alcohol fuelled disorder. The one reported incident of disorder occurring in the street was in February at 1.30am and was connected to the Slug and Lettuce. (This specific premise has since been closed down). It was dealt with by the TSG and a male was arrested and given a disorder fixed penalty fine. Pc Grieves also confirmed that the Maynard has not been the subject of noise complaints other than that caused by their air conditioning.

'In response now that the local Safer Neighbourhoods are working an Olympic shift pattern, they will be able to pay attention to these venues until midnight at weekends. Additionally the Neighbourhood Policing Teams will be working night shifts in the west of the borough tackling other local issues and I have tasked them to pay attention as well. A/Sgt Rogers (Muswell Hill) does not report having had any issues but will continue to monitor the premises on her side and consult with the public.

'Night Duty uniformed units are regularly tasked to visit/patrol the Muswell Hill roundabout area, as well as Priority Crime Teams and unmarked vehicles. Safer transport officers are also active in the area tackling unlicensed mini cab activity. Additionally TSG have also been directed to patrol this area as can be seen from the above.

'Looking to the future the Grill Kebab on the roundabout has applied for extended opening hours (until 0430). This may cause people to hang around after leaving clubs. Pc Grieves is aware of this and monitoring CCTV to gather evidence to oppose it. The public should be aware of this as a sign should be in their window giving locals the opportunity to object.

'All the on-license establishments in the area have also been reminded of their responsibilities to the community and specifically that selling intoxicating liquor to a drunk person is an offence.

'I would urge the local residents to call the police at the time if they see anti-social behaviour or drug taking/dealing place. There are CCTV cameras in the area and the pictures from these can be viewed in real time by local officers or we can use subsequent footage as part of an investigation and bring offenders to justice.

'Let me reassure you that we are committed to tackling such behaviour and will do all in our power to support local people and ensure that they have a safe and secure environment.'

Further confirmation was sought as to whether Fortis Green SNT had been contacted about this as Muswell Hill Broadway is split between Fortis Green and Muswell Hill wards with a number of the clubs being in Fortis Green and the following response was received:

'I have spoken to the Fortis Green Sergeant Dave Williams and he is fully aware of the complaints and activity. He informs me that whenever his team are late shift on a Friday/Saturday he conducts licensing visits; he is also in regular contact with the Licensing Officer PC Greaves. In the past he has also attended licensing reviews for the various late night venues on Muswell Hill Broadway. He did state that he has received previous complaints regarding the clubs but at the Alexandra ward panel on the 12th July, which

includes residents from Dukes Avenue, they commented on how improved, or rather how little disturbance was now emanating from the clubs.'