

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: JONATHAN PRICE
INTERVIEWING OFFICERS: JOHN CORKETT
JAMIE MACKENZIE
DATE OF INTERVIEW: 11TH JUNE 2013
TIME INTERVIEW COMMENCED: 09:38 HOURS
TIME INTERVIEW CONCLUDED: 10:24 HOURS
TAPE REFERENCE NUMBER: 1

<u>Tape Time</u>	<u>Person Speaking</u>	<u>Text</u>
	JC	OK, this interview is being tape recorded. I am John Corkett, I'm a Licensing Officer from Hertfordshire Constabulary based at Watford Police Station. The other person present with me is....
	JM	Jamie Mackenzie, I'm the Licensing Enforcement Officer for Watford Borough Council.
	JC	We are in the interview room at Watford Town Hall and I am interviewing – can you please state your full name, your date of birth and your address.
	JP	Jonathan Price, 18 th of the 9 th '71, [REDACTED], Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
	JC	Thank you. So this interview is being tape recorded, at the conclusion of the interview we will give you a notice explaining what will happen to the tapes should this matter proceed to a

prosecution at a later time, and that's not saying that it will do, OK?

JP Mmm.

JC The date is the 11th of June 2013, the time by my watch is 9.38, just about 20 to 10 in the morning. As I say this interview is being tape recorded, the purpose of recording it is because this is an investigation into an alleged criminal offence, I'll tell you what those offences are now, they are an allegation of Unlicensed Activity under the Licensing Act 2003, ie a breach of the Premises Licence for the Red Lion Public House, Vicarage Road, and another offence of Attempting to Obstruct Police, OK, those are the offences we're dealing with. Before we begin I've got to caution you and I've got to tell you a few things, OK? You have the right to legal advice. You are not under arrest, you can leave any time you like and, as I say, you have the right to seek legal advice either on the phone or in person, all right? If at any time during this interview you wish to stop the tape or the interview and go and take legal advice you must let us know, we will do that, you can go and have that advice and come back, are you clear on that?

JP I have no interest in legal advice.

JC OK.

JP If I've made a mistake it's an honest and I'll tell you the truth and if you like that you like that and if you don't you don't.

JC OK, right if at any time during the interview if you let us know, OK? Right, before we begin I've got to caution you because those are the rules and the caution is You do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you fail to mention

when questioned something which you later rely on in Court. Anything you say may be given in evidence. Do you understand the caution?

JP Yeah.

JC Would you explain to me just so that I know that you understand it because it's quite important.

JP (Inaudible).

JC I just....

JP I, yeah, I understand.

JC Oh right, I'll explain it to you as well. Right, the first bit says you don't have to say anything, right, you can sit here in complete silence....

JP Oh, right, OK, sorry I wasn't being....

JC Yeah, no that's all right, no I understand, a lot of people don't know because it's like a new experience. You don't have to say anything, you can sit here in complete silence or just say no comment or whatever you want, we can't make you talk, all right?

JP I wouldn't have turned up if I took that, there's no point.

JC OK. The second part of course is that if you don't answer the questions and this should go, go before some Tribunal at a later time, a Court or maybe a Licensing Sub-Committee or whatever it could harm any defence you have if you don't answer a question now because the Court may draw an adverse inference

and say why didn't you answer that at the time you could have done or you give an answer that you change later on, it could harm that, all right?

JP Yeah.

JC OK, the final part is anything you say may be given in evidence, because it's being record on tape all right?

JP Yeah.

JC Josh, I've told you what the offences are, they're the breach of the Licensing Act, we're alleging that on the, I think the 12th of May this year the final match of the season to decide who went to Wembley for the Play Offs you breached your Licence in that you were open and selling alcohol at 10.30 in the morning....

JP Yeah.

JCwhen your Licence actually allows the sale of alcohol from midday, do you understand that?

JP Yeah.

JC And that you, there was another breach in the fact that you did not have a Personal Licence Holder on duty at the time.

JP I actually did.

JC OK, we'll get to that in a minute, OK, all right. And finally the Obstructing Police is, it stems from that, that bit that I just told you about, the, the Licence Holder, OK?

JP I, I don't follow Obstructing.

JC OK, the Obstructing is if the Police – we think you didn't have a Personal Licence Holder on the premises....

JP Right.

JCOK, which is a condition of your Licence....

JP Yeah.

JCI'll go on to explain it in detail in a minute. The allegation is if you didn't have one you actually told the Police you did....

JP Right.

JCand thereby tried to avoid a prosecution or, or being detected....

JP Right.

JCor anything, OK? Those, those are what we're dealing with, OK?

JP Mmm.

JC Right. Tell us what, tell us your version of events.

JP My version of events is, is, is clearly we were open at half 10 to sell beer....

JC Mmm.

JPwhich like you said I shouldn't do at half past 10, I completely and utterly acknowledge that. I came in to see you

about a couple of things, I'll tell you actually why I think you come in and some of your guys come in because when I come to see you there was some incidents before which I think, I'm not sure of his rank, DI or Inspector Moss?

JC Inspector Moss.

JP Inspector Moss, nice fella, come in, two games previously there was coaches put outside of the pub overlooking the garden overlooking the windows and we, they was going to cause a problem.

JC Yeah, you can understand his....

JP And it's, then last week, Inspector Moss when he come in, I think he's actually sent you an e-mail to say it actually was down to you, down to the Police, you shouldn't have done that and it was really silly, they should have been backed up 20 yards and that issue would have been taken away.

JC OK.

JP So I come in to see you about that on the Wednesday....

JC No, the reason we actually called you in was because you hadn't supplied us with the CCTV.

JP No I supplied, yeah, what, it was a mixture of.

JC OK.

JP So I come in and we spoke about that and then I think yourself and Marie White said yes actually you'd spoken to Inspector Moss and, you know, that's fine, it's, you know, we understand

9:15:10

that's down to us. I then brought you in the CCTV that you asked for. On that, when you, on the way out you said oh big game, big game Sunday, blah de blah, and we, we spoke and you said what are your, your, your, what are you doing at that, I said well we open at half past 8, bacon rolls and, and, and coffee and what have you because obviously people are quite excited and it will be open as a pub from half past 10. The reason I said that, because I believed when we went back previously a year or so we had a discussion and we had a meeting, a full proper meeting in the, the Station and I was under the impression, perhaps I've got it complete wrong, that – excuse me – the, we could open 2 hours before kick off.

JC Right, and that's why you were open that day?

JP And that's why, and I think when I said that to you and I said that to Marie as well, clearly not trying to hide the fact that we were going to open at half past 10 so I think that's why you sent your guys in because you've heard what I've said, that's my honest opinion. The other thing I was going to say on that is if I really was going to try and do something underhand and open the pub to try and earn some money and do stuff I really wouldn't do it, I'd be some sort of idiot when I've got 25 Police around the front of the, the, the pub, I've got two neon signs that say open, I've got three dirty great big doormen and I've got four Police horses five yards from the pub, I wouldn't try and do that, I must be some sort of idiot. If I'm going to try and open late night for some boxing or whatever like people do, have it out in the back room and blah de blah, fine, but I am not trying, I wasn't trying to hide anything, I honestly thought that was what I could do.

JC OK.

JP And that's why we were open at that time.

JC Right, that's your explanation.

JP That is.

JC OK, my recollection is you came in to see us. as you said, regarding the CCTV and a couple of other issues....

JP Yeah.

JCand during that, during that meeting you were given a copy of this, do you recognise that?

JP Yeah.

JC Premise Licence and you were told this is your Licence, have a look at it and make sure you comply with everything on there, do you recall that being said?

JP To be honest, and I'm not being, I'm not being a pain in the arse John, a lot of time I don't remember I said yesterday but you may well have done, I'm not saying you haven't, I don't recall that if I'm honest.

JC Right. Have a look through it, I mean it says, it says alcohol sales on a Sunday, which was the day of that match....

JP Yeah.

JC12 until....

JP Yeah, absolutely, absolutely, I've looked at the Licence since and I, I, I completely agree with you.

- JC Can you tell me where on the Licence it says that you've got authority to open 2 hours before a match on any day.
- JP No, again I'm not the most experience, John, I'm not the most experienced, I've not been doing this for 25 years and I presume, again I, the pub we have there I think at different times and different days, match days in particular it's a different pub and when I went over there with Glyn Evans we discussed a lot of things because obviously the pub was under the, the control of the Football Club at the time....
- JC Yeah.
- JPand again we discussed being open two hours before and again it doesn't happen often, I think that's, that's twice this year that the pub's been open early, had a early kick off. Sometimes again the, the, with the TV scheduling, I think I they'd gone up to the Premiership it might have been worse....
- JC All right.
- JPbut sometimes – if you let me finish – sometimes that does get bandied around and when we spoke on behalf of, of the Football Club (inaudible) that was raised. I pres-, I, I strong-, firmly believed that had been put in and I don't know if that's going to be in that Licence, if it's, if it's a separate issue or what, I honestly, genuinely believed, 100%, that that's what we were entitled to do.
- JC OK. Moving on then, who was the Premises Licence, sorry the Personal Licence Holder on duty that day?

JP Right. When your, your, I was actually a little bit, I, it was a little bit, your, your Police, she was, she was a really nice woman, I forget what, what her name was, Sue?

JC Sue Jameson, she's a Superintendent.

JP Yes, Sue was lovely. The other guy that was there, all of a sudden you get like if somebody's, he's got a camera and it's thrust in your face, you're, you're busy, you're trying to do a lot of, a million and one things and I think that I was just a little bit put off by that.

JC OK.

JP When we had, when we had...

JC Who was the Personal Licence Holder?

JP Right, if you let, if you let me speak I will tell you John...

JC I don't need an explanation, I just need to know who it was.

JP You do need an explanation because I think it's quite relevant.

JC OK, you tell me.

JP We, we had a meeting in here because we got very unfairly closed for the Crystal Palace game.

JC That's in the past.

JP It is in the past but I think if you, the notes were taken. When we discussed about it and we said Ron was going to be proposed, Ron Smith, as the DPS what we said then and we spoken then,

I'm sure they've taken the notes, and again unless I've completely got this way out of line you were happy for me, because I've actually passed my course and my stuff's in with Dacorum Council, you was happy for me to be a DPS, for me to be that person on there and I think the Minutes would have been taken on that. Now if I'm not there I was to call, Marie was going to give me number to call in.

JC OK, let's stop right there, have you got a Personal Licence?
Have you got a Personal Licence?

JP I've passed the course.

JC Have you got a Personal Licence?

JP No.

JC Has, have you, have you registered....

JP Well....

JC ...as a Personal Licence Holder with Watford Council, Three Rivers, any Council in England and Wales?

JP It's, it's logged with, with Dacorum and I'm waiting for that to come back.

JC But you have not got a Personal Licence?

JP Well again I have passed the, the test.

JC No, no, answer the direct question.

JP On the day, on the day John, on the day John.....

JC Yeah.

JP ...if you let me, instead of trying to wind me up....

JC Yeah, I'm not trying to wind you up.

JP You are John, you are. On, on that day she asked me about that, I felt, and I've been, you said that you were happy for me to be that. On that day Allan Smart was in there who is a Personal Licence Holder and he was on site because he'd come down as an ex player to be around our place and he was in the premises on that day anyway. All day.

JC He was the Personal Licence Holder on duty – why didn't you tell the Police that at the time?

JP No because again, when you've had a camera thrust in your face and I had another Officer, John, that was I felt really trying to trip me up, I was very uncomfortable at the time.

JC Let's have a look at the video shall we and we can see....

JP Yeah, yeah, yeah.

JC Because I don't suppose you've seen it. Right, this is the video taken with body-cam....

JP Yeah.

JC OK, right, you have to listen carefully. It goes on for about six minutes, all right?

JP Mmm.

JC And we'll watch it. This is Superintendent Jameson, this is Sergeant Fishwick and this is PC Jones with the camera. You see the time there, 10.34....

JP Yeah.

JCand 36 seconds. We're just waiting for you to come out. Just for the sake of clarity I've checked this time on the body-cam in question and it is accurate.

JP Yeah.

JC The Superintendent's watch is probably a couple of minutes fast but that is accurate, 10.35. Right, you're going to come out just now.

9:24:00

JP Mmm.

JC I want you to listen very carefully to what you say next, all right?

JP OK. Yeah, and I've explained that.

JC OK, we come back to that point, that's going to stop now so it's just 10.39 in the morning, OK?

JP I've not, you know, I've not denied that for a second, for one minute.

JC Now that's, that's the video, right.

JP Yeah.

JC A small point I'll make before anything else is....

JP Yeah.

JC that's 10 minutes after you said you opened, there's a hell of a lot of people in there....

JP Yeah.

JC served with alcohol within those 10 minutes.

JP John, if you come in on a match day....

JC You'd been open longer than 10 minutes.

JP I hadn't John.

JC OK, that's your opinion, right. The garden is full of people.

JP So what, we have an outside bar John.

JC The garden is full of people.

JP There's an outside bar John.

JC OK, it's still 10.30, where does the authority come for you to open up?

JP As I said to you before, if I've made a mistake I'll, I'll, I'll take anything that's coming to me and I will take it firmly on the chin because that's what it is, an honest mistake.

JC What upsets me is you've indicated there to Sue Jameson....

JP No.....

JCthat myself and Marie gave you permission to open up....

JP No, what....

JCwhich is clearly not the case.

JP What I said was I come in to see you and I'd informed you, that's what you said, what's happening with, with the game and I said that to you and I think that's why you sent these people in.

JC I have, no, I'll tell you now Josh, we would not have said that, you are a high profile pub opposite a football stadium on probably the most important match day of the year, there is no way we would have said OK Josh, you go ahead and open at 10.30.

JP No, no, I didn't think I, that wasn't what I was trying to say, I think that's, you can, you can see something and take it two different ways, what I've actually said, and I said this from the off when we first spoke about it, I thought I could open at half past 10 and when I come in and spoke to you and I said yeah we're open for bacon rolls and what have you at, at half past 8 and that I would be open properly at half past 10, I didn't, what I'm, what I was trying to say was I wasn't....

JC Josh, at the end of the day we would have said no way.

JP Well I said that John and I, I, I said that, now if that's not right then that's not right.

JC OK, and the other point is....

JP Where I was, and if you're on about the Personal Licence Holder, when we had a meeting at the Council I was under the impression you were happy for me to be that person and that's what she said, and that's why I said.....

JC You haven't got a Personal Licence.

JP No, John, you're happy for me to be that person in there.

JC If you had a Personal Licence. You haven't got one.

JP Well that's, that's where, what I think. Allan Smart was in the pub and Allan Smart is also a Personal Licence Holder.

JM And he was on duty was he, all day?

JP Allan was in all day, yeah.

JM He was on duty....

JP Yeah.

JM as in he was employed, he was working for you....

JP Yeah.

JM during the day?

JP Yeah.

JM He'll confirm that he was working on that day?

JP Yeah.

JM Allan Smart will confirm that he was working as a....

JP Allan Smart....

JM Because you said earlier he'd come down to, to meet the players because he was an ex player, to get....

JP Allan....

JMthat's not the same as working in a pub for the day, I just want to be sure that....

JP We employed him to come down.

JM Right, so you employed him as the, as the person, because your Licence says there should be a Personal Licence Holder....

JP Yeah.

JMon duty at the venue.

JP Allan actually come down the game before as well.

JM Right, OK, so he'll confirm that he was the....

JP Yeah he will.

JMdesignated, he was designated to be on duty as a Personal Licence Holder on those days?

JP Yeah.

JM Fine, cool. Right, I just want - can I ask some questions?

JC Yeah, of course you can, yeah.

JM Just a couple of quick things, you say obviously you've taken your Personal Licence....

JP Yeah.

JM course, where did you take that?

JP I took it at the Jury's Inn.

JM Jury's Inn, is it with a private company?

JP CPL.

JM CPL, and how, how long ago did you take that?

JP It was February '11.

JM February 2011, and how long was the course?

JP It was a one day course.

JM One day course, right, and did, and what did they cover on that course, roughly, I mean obviously I don't want to go through the course thing but....

JP It's two years ago, all stuff, everything to do with....

JM Right, what....

JP whatever, yeah with licensing.

JM Premises Licences?

JP Everything, yeah.

JM Licensing hours, sale to children....

JP Yeah.

JMdon't sell to drunk people, that sort of stuff?

JP Yeah.

JM Right, so, so hours obviously covered?

JP Yeah.

JM Right, so you had training is all I'm trying to get at, you've had training....

JP Yeah.

JMyou say you've done a, you've done a course which, which entitles you to become a premises, a Personal Licence Holder if you apply to the relevant....

JP Yes.

JMauthority and yet you seem to completely misunderstand what licensing hours mean on a Licence.

JP I'll tell you....

JM In the video you say 11 o'clock on a Sunday.

JP No.

JM Completely wrong....

JP Yes.

JMit's 12 o'clock.

JP Again what I've done on the, on the thing, football is usually on a Saturday and sometimes when you're in there that seems like a Saturday or Sunday, it's a Saturday as far as I'm concerned and again with the camera in your face you're under pressure and it actually was a bit....

JM The Officer clearly says it's a Sunday, it's Sunday hours, he says it about three or four times, Sunday hours.

JP Yeah, I'm under pressure and I've completely missed, missed he's done that.

JM Right, OK.

JP I mean....

JM Even....

JPit's quite unnerving having a, having a camera shoved in your face, being surrounded by three Officers who are basically, not having a go but they're, they're being, it's well hang on a minute....

JM Well I didn't, I didn't take that video as being like that at all actually, I think they're, they're asking you questions in a very measured way.

JP No I, I, I agree but then to have three people when you're not expecting that to be there on you like that, I, you know I'm not used to that.

JM OK. How many meetings or, or involvements, queries, telephone calls have you had, roughly, again roughly speaking, with John or with Marie, with Watford CSU since taking over The Red Lion pub?

JP I think I've been in there, I don't know, ask John, half a dozen times.

JC It's got to be five or six minimum.

JM Five or six times, and when did you take over the pub?

JP Well I'm the Manager of the pub.

JC Yeah, Premises Licence Holder.

JM When was your, when did you start getting involved in the pub?

JP Premises Licence Holder I came, it would have been some time middle of March, early March.

JC It was actually February.

JM February this year, but, but are all those meetings since February this year, that's what I'm trying to get, get at or is that, or did you have meetings prior to that?

JP Yeah, again because of the times and the bits of pieces when we can open I actually had a, I, when the Football Club, the Football Club opened the pub and they owned the pub...

JM Yes, yeah.

JPso I was then managing that for the Football Club, so with the guy who is the stadium....

JM Yeah, manager.

JPmanager, Glyn Evans....

JM Yeah.

JPI came with him, we had a discussion with John, Marie and a couple of other people and that would have been somewhere in the region of April, May.

9:35:10

JC It was Ian Smith, what it was Marie and it was....

JP Oh Ian, Ian Smith.

JCApril 2012.

JM Right, OK.

JC And at that, just to clarify that, you were, Glyn put you up as the DPS then and the application was immediately rejected and it had to be because you didn't have a Personal Licence....

JM Yeah.

JCand would not have had any authority to carry on licensable activity so from our first dealings with you in April last year, and it's now June 2013 which is 14, 14 months....

JP Mmm.

JCyou've been telling us I'm going to get my Personal Licence.

JP Because I actually stepped away from the pub because there's, there's quite a few other things....

JC Going back to February, going back to February we told you then, when we had the review period, which I don't really want to go into too much, you told us then I'll be, I'm going to get it and....

JP Yeah, if you let me explain I'll explain exactly what the situation has been with the pub. Since Watford had the pub and then Watford changed ownership to these Italian people, the previous owner, Laurence Bassini, kept hold of the pub and to be fair it's been a complete disaster since then because Laurence is up and down and that, you don't know where you are from, from one week to the next.

JC From February Laurence had nothing more to do with the pub other than actually owning the pub.

JP He owns the pub John.

JC When you became Premises Licence Holder it was perfectly acceptable, he gave up being DPS....

JP If you let me speak I will explain.

JCand Ron Smith became DPS.

JP If you're going to, if you're going to keep butting in John there's no point me being here.

JC But I do not need the long explanation....

JP No I do.

JC We don't need....

JP But I do, I need the long explanation because I'll tell you for why I haven't actually been the DPS on it.

JC Go on.

JP Right? Because from one week to the next we've been told the pub's going to be sold, we've been told the pub's going to be sold to some people we know, then it's not, then it is, then it's not and to be quite honest I'm not sure even now what's happening with that pub which is why I haven't been the DPS with it.

JC OK, I understand, but the DPS means nothing to you does it because of what happened to Ron Smith, it's just a bit of paper to you anyway.

JP What do you mean it's a bit of paper to me?

JC Ron Smith....

JP Yeah.

JCobviously when this happened, with what we've just watched on the video, I wrote to Ron Smith saying Ron Smith you are in trouble....

JP Yeah.

JCDPS gets into trouble, he's the, he's the....

JP Yeah.

JCman responsible. Ron Smith said I'm not the DPS. Ron Smith tells us, and I have it here as a statement....

JP Right.

JCthat he was told by you in February this year that he was no longer DPS, you'd found someone else. He, he didn't even know he was DPS any longer.

JP Ron signed the forms.

JC He signed the forms....

JP So Ron's signed the forms and Ron's put the forms in, at the end of the day that's gone into that, has Ron resigned from that?

JC Oh yes, that's why....

JP He has now but between that last game when you've called him, until then he was the DPS.

JC He didn't know.

JP How would he not know then if he hasn't resigned?

JC He never went to the pub, he's never met you.

JP Ron's never met me?

JC No.

JP Ron has met me on several occasions John.

JC Ron's never met you.

JP Right, well let's, let's get Ron in....

JC Let me put it this way, I'm more inclined to believe Ron than I am you because you have not told them the truth, you've lied on this, I'm more inclined to believe Ron, that's human nature Josh, I'm sorry.

JP Are you trying to goad me John?

JC I'm not trying to goad you.

JP At the end of the day Ron has signed to be the DPS, Ron has put the forms in to be the DPS, right?

JC Yeah.

JP We have an arrangement with Ron about being the DPS and then Ron has resigned when you've put pressure on Ron to resign after this....

JC We've not put any pressure on Ron at all.

JP Just let me finish. And then Ron was not the DPS anymore. In the meantime Ron is fully aware, he's been doing this for years, he knows that he has to resign from being the DPS to stop being the DPS and Ron has met me on numerous occasions and not only can I prove, prove that there's other people that know that I know Ron.

- JC OK. Let's read through his statement. "In March I read in the local paper there'd been a Licence renewal relating to The Red Lion. It clearly stated in the report the DPS had to be on the premises" – he's made a mistake there but that's what his understanding was.
- JP So has made a mistake.
- JC His understanding of what the story said. "I telephoned Jonathan Price and he explained that I was not needed on the premises as Allan Smart held the relevant Licence. I assumed that I'd been replaced as a DPS. That's my last dealings with it until the 15th of May when I got a letting from the Licensing Unit at Watford telling me basically I'm in trouble".
- JP If you read between the lines there John, which I'm actually trying to think why, again you can take that one way or the other, what I said, what Ron said was that sometimes he can't always be here on a Saturday, he's involved with Evergreen Football Club I believe, so what Ron said was, he said actually I can be the DPS and I can be around the pub, I might be, but some Saturdays are difficult....
- JC (Inaudible).
- JP ...and I said that's not a problem because Allan Smart can be here the days you can't be here and that, I think that's how I've understood what he's wrote down there.
- JC Ron Smith says he only ever went to the pub once whilst he was DPS and he wasn't allowed in because he didn't have a ticket. He then managed to persuade Neil, your brother, to let him in and he spoke about the Licence then.

JP OK, OK, that's clearly not true and also we had some flyers up for Evergreen Football Club on behalf of Ron because he was trying to get some grant done so why would I put Ron's stuff in there if Ron had never been in?

JC Why, why would anything get done at the pub, Josh, that isn't honest and above board, I can't understand, because there are things recently that have been very, very dishonest.

JP I know nothing about that and that's nothing to do with me.

JC OK, but you're well aware of what I'm talking about.

JP Allegedly what you're, what you said.

JC The fraudulent signatures.

JP I have no idea about that and that's, and for the record that is nothing to do with me. If something else has gone on, I'm here to discuss this....

JC OK.

JPif anything else has gone on, John, that's a different issue.

JC Perhaps you can assist me just with this, it's not, it's not treating you as a suspect, perhaps you can confirm to me – this is the application that went in on the, late last month to change the DPS to Allan Smart, it's a copy of it, so have a look, have a look at that signature.

JP Yeah.

JC Did you sign that?

JP It actually looks quite like my signature, yeah.

JC But it's not because it's different. Is it yours, did you sign it on the 22nd of the 5th?

JP No I didn't sign it on the 22nd of the 5th, what we did, because I had this thing with Ron, I spoke to Ron personally on, I'll tell you what date that was, that would have been the 16th....

JC Yeah.

JPof May and I spoke to Ron and Ron said he was going to be obviously resigning because you guys had put pressure on him....

JC Yeah.

JPso, and he said that to me so that also goes back to what Ron's saying he wasn't the DPS, he said he was going to resign because the pressure you put on you so we got some forms and I had a form because I was going away on holiday that weekend and I signed a form, I don't know if it's that form John but I signed a form.

JC Is that your signature, because it doesn't look like it.

JP It looks reasonably like my signature to me.

JC I've got your signature on other things Josh, I'm not saying you and I don't think it is you, I've got your signature on other things. Don't talk yourself....

JP I'm not talking myself into anything John. At the end of the day actually I run a transport company, I've got two signatures, I've got a squiggle, because sometimes when I go and deliver stuff I've got to have sixty signatures on a bit of paper so I've just got a little thing that I do. I don't know if that's mine, it looks reasonably like mine to be fair.

JC OK, well we'll have a look at some of the other signatures. That is, that is Allan Smart's real signature....

JP Right.

JCwe know that....

JP What, what's that got to do with me?

JC I'm just showing you just to show you. This is the signature that went on that application at the end of May when you were in Dubai, have a look. Right, OK, they're not the same and anyway if it is he can't even spell his name because he's got two Ls in his name.

JP But I don't know why you're....

JC I'm just telling you (inaudible) behind the whole thing.

JP No, I'm not interested.

JC Well you should be.

JP No John, I'm not interested in somebody, if somebody else has been dishonest that's somebody else and that isn't me John.

JC This is the, this is the Licence Application that you put in back in February with Allan Smart on there, that's not his signature either, you've put this on it. Unfortunately I cannot attribute this to you 100% otherwise you'd be sitting here, probably not in here, you'd be in the cells I think.

JP Are you allowed to actually talk to me like that?

JC I can, yeah, I'm asking you questions.

JP That happened, that, that's March, I have no idea about that.

JC You put the forms in. I'm just trying to illustrate to you....

JP I have no idea about that John.

JCthe dishonesty that's gone on around this, there's the lying, there's the cheating....

JP It's not the lying John.

JC No, it's just a piece of paper.

JP It's not lying. Please, please don't try and wind me up and call me a liar.

JC I'm saying the lying and the cheating that's gone on around it.

JP Look, listen, I'm sure there's Old Bill that lie and cheat, I'm sure because, no, I'm sure there's Old Bill that lie and cheat and do things wrong....

JC That's

JP No, but that doesn't mean to say that you're one of those does it? I can't tar everybody with the same brush, the same matters if there's 100 people that work in that pub, if one of them is an armed robber does it make us all armed robbers? No it doesn't....

JC I'm talking about....

JP ...what it means John....

JC ...the running of The Red Lion.

JPwhat I'm talking about....

JM You're the Premises Licence Holder.

JP We had, I've been a Premises Licence Holder since, since March....

JC Yeah.

JPin that time, in that hearing you stood up and you said in that hearing you were more than happy with the way that I manage it, the way that I run it and there's no issues. I've also got stuff in from local residents who said they were delighted with how that pub was run because I don't really know the history of the pub because I'm not a Watford boy....

JC Right.

JP ...and it used to be run as, it was like the Wild West in there....

JC Yeah.

JP ...and they were delighted with how the pub was run and would be devastated if it went back to how it was so I think that's a pretty decent thing coming from the Police and coming from the local resident.

JC Undoubtedly it was but....

JP And in there....

JC ...things change.

JP ...and in there I've had a camera shoved in my face, I'm not up front, I'm not an up front merchant, and that actually sent me a little bit wobbly and unless I'm wrong in our hearing you were happy for me, because I was responsible and you were happy with what I do and how I go about things for me to be on site match days.

JC Providing you had a Personal Licence Holder.

JP It will be interesting to get the Minutes of that, it will be interesting to get the Minutes of that. The point I'm trying to make is I am not a liar and I am not a cheat...

JC You lied about me and Marie giving you permission to open.

JP No I didn't, again if you want to say that I'm lying John....

JC You lied about being a Personal Licence Holder.

JP ...I'm not lying John, it's not lying, are you trying to goad me on purpose?

JC I'm not, I'm just pointing out....

JP I'm saying I came into your offices and I said to you that I'd be open at half past 10, I didn't ask your permission because I didn't think I needed your permission. I thought I could open two hours before the game because I thought that going back to our conversation with Glyn Evans, and again that's not The Red Lion down the High Street, that it's regimented. I'm not that experienced, I presumed, I, I honestly 100% believed....

JC So....

JPthat match days was slightly different.

JC So you're not regimented and you don't really, you're not experienced enough?

JP No what I'm saying is John....

JC So we're supposed to allow you some slack to do what you like?

JP No, I'm not saying, you're putting words, you're putting words in my mouth, what I'm trying to say to you is if I've made a mistake I've made an honest mistake and I'm a lot of things, if I was going to try and open a pub underhand for, for whatever reason, for personal gain on a high profile game like that, knowing how interested you are in the pub and do it, and I would do that with 25 coppers outside the boozier, neon signs and doors open and, why would I do that....

JC You tell me.

JP ...I must be some sort of, well, I don't know how I get up in the morning, I must be a retard John because I am not that stupid.

JC You've said on there that myself and Marie said it would be OK to open, that's your permission in your mind.

JP No it wasn't my, that's not what I said. What I said was and what I'd meant was I'd been to you and I'd spoken to you about it....

JC Can you just stop banging the desk because it picks it up on there.

JP Oh does it?

JC Yeah.

JM Can I, taking the point about the experience again, sort of going back to the, to the point that I was getting to which I never quite asked the questions about how many meetings you'd had and everything, six, five or six meetings with the Police in sort of a 14 month period is quite a lot for a, for a....

JP I wasn't called in for a problem.

JM Right.

JP I was, a lot of the time I've come in just to have a discussion because there might be a high profile game coming up or there might be something that we need to, to look at, I haven't been called in because of the issues in the pub, there's never been an arrest in the pub.

JM Even, even, I've not really interested in arrests in the pub but even, even going, even in, in terms of how many times you've actually been, you know, in contact with John....

JP Yeah.

JM discussing things, that in my experience would kind of usually set someone who runs a pub on a path to kind of gain experience quite quickly....

JP Yeah, absolutely.

JM over a short period of time....

JP Absolutely.

JM over a short period of time....

JP Yeah.

JM gaining quite a lot of experience....

JP Yeah.

JM and it's a very, as John said it can be a high profile pub, high profile area....

JP Yeah.

JM busy pub on a particular day....

JP Yeah of course.

JM a very busy pub, again in my opinion requires an experience person to run it.

JP Yeah.

JM Getting the timing wrong on your Licence is so, is so very basic....

JP And I do understand that, I understand that 100% wholeheartedly.

JM Right. How much longer did you think you would need to get enough experience to get the timing right? At what point are we going to be able to say well actually the pub is being run within the terms of it's Licence because two year after taking over Mr Price has sort of got to grips with the, the....

JP Well it wasn't two years and to be honest....

JM No, no, but I'm saying are we going to get to two years down the line....

JP No. If you let me explain, the point I'm trying to make was I opened the pub, I was, I was the manager of the pub for the Football Club and we had a meeting and it was about timings, it was about stuff, perhaps early things and Sky moving things around for the, for the football so there would be, sometimes instead of being a 3 o'clock kick off it would be a 5.15, instead of it being 3 o'clock it would be a 12.30. We had a discussion about that, I then, when the pub was sold and the takeover I came away from the pub....

JM Yeah.

JP so I didn't have any part of the pub for a while....

JM Right.

10:49:00 JP ...but in that discussion we had I actually think I left about two weeks afterwards so I would, when these things were going through, that pub is, is slightly different to most pubs and on match day it's different and I strongly and honestly understood that, that we could open two hours before match day because we had a discussion about that previously.

JM The Licence times haven't changed, they haven't changed for ages.

JP No I understand that.

JM Right, so they're the same when you took over the first time and the same from February when you became the Premises Licence Holder.

JP Yeah.

JM Is that right?

JP Well we, yeah, my, my mistake is that we had the conversation previously and that was going to be put into the Licence because the Licence had been, there's been other things put in there over the past year.

JM I mean....

JP I strongly believed that we could open two hours before kick off.

JM If you'd have come in the day before that match, I mean it's such a high profile match....

JP Yeah.

JM it's a busy day....

JP Yeah.

JM it still would have been wrong.

JP No, absolutely.

JM If you'd come in the day before and said, as in you'd started the day before and you said I must have misread, I read it 11 o'clock instead of 12 o'clock I might be able to sit here and say OK, I can see how it's happened....

JP Yeah, of course.

JM 14 months is quite a long period of time to be in charge of somewhere....

JP Well I was away from that pub from a long, long time, I hadn't been in there 14 months.

JM Well all right, even since February, 25th of February....

JP Yeah.

JM which is the date on this Licence, it's still a long time.

JP Yeah it is. And it's a massive, massive oversight on my part but like I say I wasn't trying to get away with anything because if I would do, on such a high profile game, high profile, high profile pub, with all of those Police outside I'm actually saying shoot me, you know, it's so, it's such, perhaps an error and it, and it's such an oversight and it's such a thing that I wouldn't, I wouldn't be that stupid. It's like going and ram raiding a shop, if I want to

go and hold up one of the banks down there, if they've got 45 coppers hanging outside I'd probably give it a miss don't I?

JM The worry is....

JP You know?

JMis that having been in the position for, for a fair length of time....

JP Yeah.

JMto have made such an error....

JP And error, yeah I understand.

JMthe concern is, well when do we know that that error is not going to be made again, how do we know that that, do you see the problem?

JP Yeah.

JM Because what....

JP But that's an isolated error. And if we go back to how the pub's been run since then, the Police have stated, the local resident have stated there's never been no other incidents.

JM Well there has been since, there was one the other week wasn't there, that was....

JP Yeah, but going through from me being involved in the pub there's been no incidents in the pub.

JM Right, I'm not sure that's entirely....

JC Well no, that's not entirely true, there have been other incidents, I'm not going to go into....

JP But also....

JCI don't think there's any point. There are other breaches, and if you want to go through them, there's children in your back, in the beer garden after 7.30 at night, they should all be out, every child should be out of that place at 7.30, there are kids playing football in the back yard, that's on video, I really don't bother with that, and then the day after Allan Smart took over, and this again is nothing to do with you....

JP No it's not.

JCthere was some kind of reggae party there that was still going at 2am in the morning, now I don't know whether you rent that place out to some other people or whatever but that, that was not acceptable. We had plain clothes Police Officers in there, there are all kinds of breaches going on which I need to speak to Allan or Neil about probably, but it was still going at 2am.

JM I suspect that the goodwill of the neighbours will probably vanish quite quickly if that sort of thing is going on.

JP Listen, I wasn't here and at the end of the day the pub has been a complete mare with, with Laurence and what have you, lots of things that have gone on with the pub and as I said before really I do think that the Police, my opinion, is that they're really, really interested in it, I think there's some, some, from higher, and I've said this from day one John, there's some, I think there's some pressure from higher, I don't think the pub is wanted there....

JC Listen....

JPit's too much of an issue on match days.

JC How, how good have we been to you? We've tried to help you, we've tried to help you out all the time and we did say don't bring yourself to notice and each time you bring yourself to notice.

JP Well when you said each time, we, we had a, a thing at the Council, when you said, again you're saying about people lying, we had a thing from Mr Caveney that shut us on the Crystal Palace game....

JC Yeah.

JPright?

JC Yeah.

JP And he said, and he stated, he stated that there was problems with away fans being in the pub. Now you said and Marie said, both of you, and please be honest....

(Buzzer sounds)

JC That means we're going to finish.

JP No, no, you both said to me that you had that brought to your opinion, nobody had put it in writing and it couldn't be proved.

(Buzzer sounds)

JC That means....

JP Is that true?

JC That is but that's a, that's a....

JP No is it true or not?

JC issue....

JP No it's not but it's true....

JC We're going to run out of tape. We're going to conclude this....

JP I, I....

JC or we can put some more tapes in, do you want to....

JP Yeah I do.

JC Right, OK, well I'll stop these tapes then, the time now is....

JP I think that's important.

JM 10.24, my, my mobile phone is different to your....

JC Oh right, 10.24, yeah it is, right, hang on, sorry, 11.24 isn't it?

JM We'll suspend the interview, we're not going to talk about anything in the meantime whilst the tapes are off and we can't talk about it again until the tapes are back on, all right?

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: JONATHAN PRICE

INTERVIEWING OFFICERS: JOHN CORKETT
JAMIE MACKENZIE

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 11TH JUNE 2013

TIME INTERVIEW COMMENCED: 10:25 HOURS

TIME INTERVIEW CONCLUDED: 10:39 HOURS

TAPE REFERENCE NUMBER: 2

<u>Tape Time</u>	<u>Person Speaking</u>	<u>Text</u>
	JC	OK, it's a recommencement of the interview with Jonathan Price, the time is just after 10.25. Josh, can you confirm we took a break whilst we changed the tapes.
	JP	Yeah.
	JC	And that we didn't discuss anything
	JP	We didn't discuss anything.
	JC	And these tapes were sealed and before....
	JP	They were indeed.
	JC	Right, thank you, right just before....
	JM	Can I just remind you that you're under caution.
	JP	Yeah, yeah, yeah.

JC OK, the same, everything applies, right to legal advice....

JP Yeah, yeah, absolutely.

JC OK, your right to consult the Codes of Practice etc. Right, just before you were talking about an incident where, about away supporters in the pub.

JP No what I was, the point I'm trying to make is, the point I'm trying to make, and I think it's quite a valid point is that we, there's been a few things that I think have been completely unjustified and completely wrong and you've agreed with me. We've had limited incidents with, with, with, bearing in mind we're 15 yards from the away supporters end, we, I think we run a pretty decent ship and I think there's been no incidents of, of description, there was one where I think there was about 10 or 12 Peterborough supporters, before we had the back fence boarded up, I think they got away from your coppers in the town and there was a bit of a push and a shove, a bit of plastic glasses and stuff – we eradicated that and to be fair I think there was no big, big deal with that and what we did with that we worked with you and we boarded the back fence up. That then stopped anybody seeing who was around and I think it, it took it on. When we had this hear-, this, this hearing we was closed for the Crystal Palace game, completely unfairly, we had a discussion and one of the reasons Mr (inaudible) said the, the pub was going to be shut was was because of a potential incident, flashpoint, there'd never been one. And also he said that there was on two occasions away fans in our pub, now you know we have doormen and you know them doormen look at match day tickets or season tickets and if they're not Watford they're not let in.

JC OK.

JP Now we also discussed, and you said to me when I came in to see you about a number of things you said to me that to be honest you're not even going to, even think about it because a it's not been proved and it's not been put in writing so therefore as far as you're concerned it didn't particularly happen and you did say that to me and you and Marie both said that to me so what I'm saying, the point I'm trying to make here is, not that anybody's lying, is the case of Mr (inaudible) has got some information that isn't right.

JC Sorry Josh, I'm, I'm not trying to like stop you talking but what is this, any relevance to what we're talking about now, the breach of the Licence?

JP Because people make mistakes John, that's the point I'm trying to make, people make mistakes, people do make mistakes and at the end of the day your guys make mistakes and we also had a discussion in the Town Hall when we had had that meeting and I said well how comes that you can say, people can say that these, these, these problems happened in the pub and your thing was well it's not actually a Court of Law so it hasn't got to be that specific so even, basically in the Town Hall in the meeting and the Licensing meeting say what you like.

JC It's balance of probabilities.

JP Yeah and I don't think that's particularly fair and I think all the way through, since I've been involved with that club, match days and otherwise I think it's been pretty decent, depending on where, especially on a match day and where it is.

JC Everything went wrong on the 12th when you decided, for one reason or another, that you were going to open....

JP It's a mistake.

JCat least an hour and a half early.

JP It's a mistake.

JC A big mistake to make.

JP Yeah a big mistake, we all make mistakes, and I held my hand up and said it's my fault, my mistake and I'll carry the can and whatever's coming to me I have to take on the chin because it's my fault, I'm the Premises Licence Holder and I have got that wrong. Now I'm sure in my everyday life that's not the last thing I'm going to get wrong.

JC No....

JP But at the end of the day what I'm, what I'm saying is, the point I'm trying to make to you is that it surely is an honest mistake because I wouldn't try and open a pub surrounded by Police, especially with the interest in the pub like that if I didn't honestly think that was what I can do.

JC I would say Josh that you knew because you had a meeting with us and we told you to stick to your Licence, make sure you stick to your Licence rigidly.

JP But in my, in my opinion when I had that, I, I told you, you said to me what are we doing Sunday and I said to you we're going to open at half 8 for bacon rolls and the pub will be open as a pub from half past 10, I said that to you.

JC I do not recall that because there's no way we would....

JP No, no, no, that's fine and....

JC And I'm not going to argue that point....

JP No, and I....

JCI do recall you saying you would open for bacon rolls, we have no issue with that, you can do that.

JP I understand that, no what I'm saying is if you haven't understood me or you haven't heard me or, or there's been something lost in translation then that's fine....

JC Where does it say in here you could do it?

JP It doesn't. I thought that that was what we discussed with Glyn going back 12 months, that's my....

JC Well Glyn Evans, the most fantastic Licencing brain in the whole world, he didn't understand any of it, did he?

JP To be honest I don't actually remember what Glyn remembers and what doesn't but I'm trying to....

JC He tried to put you up as DPS....

JP The point I'm, the point, the point....

JCand you weren't even a Personal Licence Holder.

JP The point I'm trying to make is that I thought that was what the situation was and I thought on a match day the pub is slightly different and will be treated slightly different because of where

it's situated and I thought that was the reason and I thought it had to be dealt with, dealt with separately because it's 15 yards away from, from the away end.

JC Right.

JP If the away supporters went in down by bottom end by The Rookery I'm sure there would be less under the spotlight with the pub, perhaps there would, I don't know but, but the Police have made mistakes with, with the stuff, bringing the coaches up and causing a flashpoint, we even told you that would happen before it did.

JC This is not the issue here.

JP No it's not the issue John but the point I'm trying to make is that happened the first week, the next week when we had a game the Police did it again, we rushed out and said to them you can't, you need to move the coaches because it's going to cause an incident.

JC This is not the issue here.

10:00:40 JP No it's not the incident but my point is John that your coppers, that happened once, the next week your coppers let that happen again, they made a mistake.

JC Yeah.

JP Which they do and I'm saying here, sitting here....

JC Say they have....

JP Yeah.

JCthe mistake they made was not against the law whereas what you did was against the law.

JP OK, I made a mistake that's against the law but your coppers have started a problem where there was coins and bits and pieces thrown....

JC They started it? OK....

JP Oh John, I'm not saying that, I'm saying, you're saying that the people in the garden had a problem and there was coins and plastic cups going backwards and forwards, because the coaches were there. If your, if your guys on duty that day hadn't put the coaches....

JC This is not what it's about.

JP No but it's, it's, I think it's relevant, if the coaches weren't there John there was nothing to throw anything at.

JC This is not the reason....

JP I....

JCyou opened up at 10.30 on a Sunday.

JP The reason I opened at 10.30 is because I thought I could. Now if I've made a mistake and it's a criminal offence I apologise and you have to do what you see fit but I did it honestly and if it's a mistake and it's a bag mistake it's still, it's still an honest mistake, we all make them.

JC What is Allan Smart going to say when we ask him about whether he was on duty on that Sunday, bearing in mind that untruths have already been told about him.

JP Untruths? Again you're implying that's me.

JC I'm just saying untruths have been told, I didn't say it was you.

JP Allan Smart will tell you he was on duty that day.

JC He will, will he?

JP Yeah he will because he come down, he was paid, he, he was paid by the pub to come down and, and, and he's actually half way through sort of a divorce so he's moving down this way so in the meantime we actually pay for him to stay here as well.

JC OK, so then why, why on earth, when you were asked by Superintended Jameson and Sergeant Fishwick why didn't you say there's the Personal Licence Holder?

JP If you look at the video, if you look at the video....

JC Yeah.

JP she said about being a Personal Licence Holder and I, I think that I'm, in that meeting at the, at the Council you said that you was happy for me to be on site and I was OK with that. She didn't ask me any more. She didn't ask me any more....

JC OK....

JP she, she accepted that and then that was it....

JC You said.....

JP but I didn't, I didn't try to....

JC You volunteered I am the Personal Licence Holder to cover that condition, those are your words.

JP Allan was inside as well and I, I strongly believe that in that meeting at the Council you said you were happy for me to be that person, if I wasn't there then I was to do something about it.

JC Nobody said that Josh, nobody said that, they said we would be happy if you were a Personal Licence Holder then you would be DPS.

JP But Allan was on, on site, now again if that's lost in translation that's fine but there was somebody on there....

JC You're just digging a well because you obviously were aware of it because you mentioned it when you were talking to them.

JP I mentioned what?

JC You mentioned Personal Licence Holder, you told, you told them that you were the Personal Licence Holder to cover it. No matter, if you say Allan Smart was your cover for that day why didn't you say to Superintendent Jameson or Sergeant Fishwick hold on a minute, Allan Smart is Personal Licence Holder....

JP Allan Smart was inside and it's just the way the conversation went round, I'm allowed to be in there and I'm in there on match day like I was all the time beforehand.

- JC He's your Personal Licence Holder, you're saying, you're now saying he was your Personal Licence Holder, came down that day to cover it. Easiest thing in the world to tell them isn't it? They've....
- JP Allan, Allan Smart would come down anyway because again I actually didn't know if I was going to be there on the Sunday so Allan come down because I was going away the following week, my missus looked like she had potential appendicitis so I wasn't sure if I was going to be there so Allan was coming down, because it was a play off thing and Allan scored one of the goals the last time they were in the final....
- JC I know, yeah.
- JPso the idea was Allan would come in, the supporters would like it, we were paying him to come down, obviously he comes down wherever he's coming from, he can't come down for nothing so Allan is on site to, to be a number of things that day.
- JC So why didn't you tell the Police Officers, why didn't you tell them here he is, this is my Personal Licence Holder, this is the man who covers in addition on my Licence, which you obviously knew about, and allows me to operate legally, why didn't you say that?
- JP Because I think that when we spoke in the, in the Council meeting, that you were OK for me to be that.
- JC How many time have we got to go through this? You have to be a Personal Licence Holder to be a DPS....
- JP Yeah.

- JC you haven't got a Personal Licence. I'm not going to keep labouring the point Josh, you haven't got it, it's been 14 months now.
- JP At the end of the day John, you, you, I've told you my honest opinion about all of this, I'm not filleting it and I've made a major mistake and I've put my hands and I've not tried to get out of it in any way, shape or form. I shouldn't have opened that early, I did, that's my fault, no-one else's. At the end of the day John you've got to do what you've got to do with that, I'm not denying that for one minute. But as I'm trying to say, your, your, your coppers make mistakes, people make mistakes, I have made one, however big or small I have made one, I've not tried to cover it up, I've not tried to fudge the issue, I have admitted that I have done wrong.
- JM I've got a couple more factual questions if that's all right just before we finish, it should be fairly short to be honest. You, you said that you've been under the impression on match days things are slightly different for that pub....
- JP Yes.
- JM because of the conversation you had some, some while back.
- JP Yeah.
- JM What days do you open the pub, not what can you open what do you, what do you generally open?
- JP Basically a long story really, with the, with the palava with, with the guy Laurence it's been very difficult, funding for the pub has been very difficult, getting it open, doing, so we, we initially were open 7 days....

JM Yeah.

JP ...going back the last April, May I think we were probably open two days a week.

JM Match day being one of them?

JP Yeah, Friday, Saturday.

JM Friday, Saturday, right, at the moment.

JP At the moment we're not open at all.

JM Sometimes there are matches on a Friday aren't there but, but generally they're on Saturdays, is that right?

JP I think there's been one all season.

10:06:40

JM One, right. So given that your, your, your impression then would be that on the majority of times that you open your pub or at least 50% of the times you open your pub the Licensing times and conditions are slightly different from those written on the Licence?

JP That, that is the reason.

JM Yeah, so as I say....

JP Yeah we've been, previous to that we were open 7 days.

JM Right, OK, sorry, I just wanted to....

JP I mean moving forward, and I, and I know these guys won't make it easy but I mean moving forward, again, if there are, it might be whether I am at the pub or somebody else completely new is at the pub, again we've, we've, the way that the TV scheduling is that might be something that might be up for discussion moving forward anyway. Possibly.

JC Right.

JM I've not no further questions.

JC No, thank you very much, have you got anything more you want to say?

JP No, I'm all good.

JC OK, we'll conclude the interview now, we'll turn off the tapes and then we're going to seal them up. Once those tapes, a copy of each tape is sealed, it can't be opened again without leave of the Court or another Tribunal, OK? You would be entitled to a copy if this goes, if this proceeds to another, another stage, at the moment we won't be giving you a copy of the tape, I'll give you a notice explaining what will happen to them, OK?

JP That's fine.

JC All right, the time is now 10.39 and I'm turning the tapes off.

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED INTERVIEW

PERSON INTERVIEWED: NEIL PRICE
INTERVIEWING OFFICERS: JOHN CORKETT
JAMIE MACKENZIE
DATE OF INTERVIEW: 2ND JULY 2013
TIME INTERVIEW COMMENCED: 10:25 HOURS
TIME INTERVIEW CONCLUDED: 10:56 HOURS
TAPE REFERENCE NUMBER:

<u>Tape Time</u>	<u>Person Speaking</u>	<u>Text</u>
	JC	This interview is being tape recorded. I'm John Corkett, I'm a Licensing Officer attached to Watford Police Station, Herts Constabulary. The other Officer present is....
	JM	Jamie Mackenzie, Licensing Enforcement Officer for Watford Borough Council.
	JC	We are in the interview room at Watford Town Hall and we are interviewing - can you please state your full name, your date of birth and your address.
	NP	Neil Price, 15 th of the 2 nd '64, it's [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
	JC	Thank you very much. The date is the 2 nd of July 2013, the time by my watch is 25 past 10, 10.25 in the morning. This interview is being tape recorded. At the conclusion of the procedure we'll give you a notice explaining what will happen to the tapes it's being recorded on, OK? This here is a copy of the Code of

Conduct of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, it explains the Codes that, that, that regulate how we go about interviewing people under caution. If you want to look at a copy of it you're quite free to consult it if you want to, all right? OK, we are dealing with an allegation of two criminal offences involving fraud, fraud by misrepresentation and fraud by using a forged instrument, OK, they are criminal offences and because of that I have to go through a certain procedure. During this procedure you are entitled to free legal advice at any time. You're not under arrest Neil, you can leave at any time you like and if you want to stop and seek that legal advice or consult anything you can do so, just let us know, are you clear on that?

NP Absolutely.

JC OK. Before we begin then I've got to caution you and I need to understand that you understand what the caution is, OK? The caution is you do not have to say anything but it harm your defence if you fail to mention when questioned something which you later rely on in Court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence, do you understand what that means?

NP I understand what that means but I don't understand how we've got here.

JC OK, I'll explain that in a minute....

NP Yeah.

JCI'll explain the caution, right, OK, the caution is....

NP And that before that I've not actually spoken to you, I've not actually spoken to anybody from the Licensing or the Police or anybody, so I'd just like to put that....

JC Yeah, fine, but I'll explain the caution just so that, before we go any further with the questions it's only fair to you that we know what we're talking about. The first bit is you don't have to say anything, if you want to sit here in complete silence you can do, if you want to say no comment that's up to you....

NP Yeah.

JC fine, it doesn't worry us, we'll ask the questions anyway. The second part of it is if you don't, if you choose not to make an answer or, or anything like that it could harm your defence, if this ends up before a Court or any other kind of Tribunal....

NP Understood, understood John, to be fair mate, look, if you've got something to ask tell me, say to me, that's why I'm here, we're man to man, I just want to get this sorted out because in my opinion, from what I can gather from second and third parties, because that's all I understand at the moment so I don't know exactly what you're going to say....

09:56:10

JC OK, if I just finish this bit....

NP Yeah.

JC the final bit and I know it's tedious trying to explain it but anything you do say may be given in evidence because it's being recorded....

NP Yeah.

JC OK. Would you like me to explain what we're looking at?

NP I would really mate, yeah, I would.

JC OK, right, the actual, the actual offences that, that are alleged, and that doesn't mean to say that they've actually happened, are this one which is fraud, fraud by false representation....

NP What does that mean?

JC It means, right, a person is in breach of this Section, which is fraud, if he dishonestly makes a false representation and intends by making the representation to make a gain for himself or another or to cause loss to himself or to expose another to risk of loss. A representation is false if it is untrue or misleading and the person making it knows that this, this is, that it might not be true or misleading. Do you understand that?

NP I think so.

JC Yeah, OK, basically it's saying that it doesn't matter if somebody's going to make a gain or loss, if somebody does something that's false or misleading it's a fraud...

NP I've got that.

JCOK, in this case we're saying that a false representation was made regarding the Licence of The Red Lion in Vicarage Road....

NP Right.

JC ...and that as a result a Licence or, or an authority to trade under the Licensing Act was granted by Watford Council which enabled The Red Lion to open up on, on Play Off day and sell alcohol for a profit or whatever, or even a loss, whatever. That's that offence and we're also looking at another allegation which is

really connected with it, Section 7 which it says a person is guilty of an offence if makes, adapts, supplied or offers, or offers to supply an article knowing that it is designed or adapted for use in the course or connection of a fraud or intend to be used to commit or assist in the commission of fraud and in that case we're saying that the application that was put into the Council on the Friday before the Play Off was false, it was a false instrument. Those, those are the allegations, is there anything you'd like to say?

NP Yeah, who's making them allegation?

JC Well they, they come from the Police.

NP Is it you?

JC They come from the Police, yeah.

NP You?

JC It's not me in person, it's the....

NP No you on behalf of the Police.

JC Yes.

NP Right, OK, cool. Why?

JC Why?

NP Mmm.

JC OK. Shall we go from what's, what's happened? We found out several, about a month and a half ago, that the, the Designated

Premises Supervisor at The Red Lion, a bloke called Ron Smith....

NP Know him well.

JC Yeah, he resigned from his role.

NP Yeah.

JC OK. It doesn't matter about the circumstances, he....

NP It actually does though John.

JC All right, go on then.

NP Because he was threatened by you lot, he was put off, not physically threatened, he was, he was, he was being, he was told that he would be put and prosecuted if he didn't step down, that is the truth John and you know it.

JC I don't think so but I'm not going to argue over that.

NP But anyway, so as far as I'm concerned I'm nothing to do with the pub by the way, I'm not the landlord....

JC Yeah.

NPI'm not, I'm not the Licence holder, I'm not the DPS, all I am is a, a not very bright footballer who's been asked to bring all the players in on match days....

JC Yeah.

NPOK, and try to drum business up for the pub.

JC OK.

NP My brother runs the pub as the land-, well, he's in charge of the pub, yeah, that's what he does.

JC I appreciate that.

NP So, so what I'm trying to say to you is is if we go round this, and it is being taped, if we go round this I have no idea about landlords, pubs, I have no idea about anything to do with the Licensing, Officers, Policemen, never anything to do with it, I don't even drink.

JC I appreciate that.

NP So what I'm trying to say to you is...

JC Perhaps....

NPfrom my point of view, yeah....

JC Yeah.

NPwhat I'm saying to you, and this is what I've been, this, this, I got a phone call on the Thursday night to say that Ron had been frightened off by you lot, now the only thing I've had, and I'll be honest with you John, the only run ins I've ever had with Police was either I've been caught speeding or something, right, I've got no criminal record, nothing, right....

JC I didn't say that.

- NP my old real interaction with the Police has been while I've been doing that role at The Red Lion.
- JP Yeah.
- NP My initial or, or my, my going forward mental thoughts about the Policemen is actually you're loo-, it seems to me like you've got a ven-, ven-, you've got a vendetta against that, that pub. Not you personally, somebody there has a vendetta against that pub. I'll tell you why, and not that it affects me because I don't run it, I don't get any financial gain from it, I don't do anything, I'm there because of the football, yeah? We have nothing, on match days which is the only time I interact and my dates are on there, Police are all over the place, right, they're doing everything, they're there all the time, they are making things difficult. We, we, I came to a meeting with my brother because obviously I'm there on match days, before when we came to the Council, you were laughed out of that place virtually, you, you're trying to do things there John and I don't know why mate, you're doing things, people are doing things at that pub....
- JC I'm sorry, you said we were laughed at, that, that was....
- NP Oh, no-one believed you really did they, you tried to put another couple of little things in and to be clear, you know, there is, from my point of view it doesn't seem fair John, it doesn't seem fair, from what I can see and again not an expert at all, on match days everybody in that pub tries to do their best. I've even been out the front when there's been a so called incident which by the way you can never, ever come up with....
- JC Right, we're, we're, we're getting sidetracked here and we're not addressing the issues....

- NP But no, no, of course you're not but what I'm trying to say is anyway, going back to that it seems to be that there's been a bit of a, it's not a very good relationship for some reason which nobody seems to be able to grasp between the Police or the Licensing Police and the pub.
- JC OK.
- NP Now....
- JC I'm not going to....
- NP ...Thursday night, Thursday night he got, he even admitted that, he got threatened to be prosecuted, or potentially prosecuted unless he stepped down, right, he then stepped down. My brother was going on holiday the next day so he then got all his stuff together and said I'm signing these forms, we're opening next week, you need to, you need to do this, you need to get Smarty to phone, to sign that, because Allan by the way is a very good pal of mine, he's a Personal Licence Holder from what I can gather, yeah, he's got his, he runs his own pub which he doesn't know I don't think anyway. We tried to get him on it before because he's a former player, he's been supporting me on that side of it, been in the pub lots and lots of times, you've only got to check Google, check the local paper to see when he's been there, been there a lot, especially recently. We were going to get him to potentially next year run the, we were going to do the stables and get him to help me run the hospitality on a match day, yeah, so he was going to be coming down to be the Licence Holder.
- JC Well he would never have been suitable, we, we....

NP Well listen, no, no, but John, right, I don't know the play, all I, all I understand is you put somebody in, OK, who's got a Licence, a current Licence, you get, I got the form signed, got Allan to sign it, Josh had already signed it, OK, whacked it up, he sent it back, the forms are signed, I don't know what I'm particular doing if I'm honest, right, I went in, I got a copy, I got a set of things from the Council, right, it was all filled out, it was all done properly, I paid the money, he even photocopied something for me, the nice guy down at Wiggenhall Road....

JC Austin?

NP Yeah, no, no it wasn't, was it Austin or....

JC Austin....

NP There's two of them there isn't there?

JC Austin.

NP Anyway, he even photocopied one to take to you. I, I went and got the, I got the copy of the thing, as far as I did put that in, straight up to yours, you don't get a receipt so I said, I said to the people can you make a note of what time I was up, fine, it went in. As far as I'm concerned that's gone in, everybody signed it, everybody's done it, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah.

JC OK. Tell me, tell me a bit about how you came to be in possession of the forms, like Josh's form, Smarty's form etc.

NP Well they're, they're just forms you can download off the internet....

JC Yeah.

NP or forms you can come and pick up.

JC Yeah.

NP Josh already had a form....

JC Yeah.

NP which he signed....

JC Yeah.

NP and then we, I had another form that's a part of it I think, I'm
not too sure, I've only ever seen it once.

JC Yeah.

NP I, it's clear where you have to sign isn't it, it's like that's the part
for him, that's the part for him....

JC Yeah, OK.

NP that's what, that's what we did, that's what happened.

JC So Allan Smart signed it?

NP Allan Smart signed it.

JC In front of you?

NP Yeah.

JC OK. Let's have a look because what you've said so far is probably quite right, about how you went about getting it. This is Allan Smart's real signature, and I'll show you this, this is a copy of an application for a Personal Licence when Allan Smart applied to have a Personal Licence up in, in North Wales, there you go, can you see that there?

NP I can.

JC OK, that's dated the 11th of the 12th, not even a year ago, yeah? And we, we believe that that is Allan Smart's signature, it's the same one that's on his Licence, OK? This is the application that you've put in to the Council, can you have a look at that and confirm whether or not....

10:05:10

NP Josh.

JC Yeah, I know it's Josh's name on it, but this is the same application that you took down there.

NP Oh, sorry.

JC Yeah. Do you recognise that paperwork?

NP Well it looks like the paperwork that was put in.

JC OK, that Allan Smart, that Allan Smart gave you and signed in front of you?

NP Well it looks like the same paperwork that, that Smarty signed, yeah.

JC If you have a look at Smarty's signature then from December and have a look at the one that went on there dated the 23rd of the 5th you can see there they're not the same.

NP Right, OK. Well you'll have to take that up with him.

JC OK, well we have spoken to him....

NP Yeah.

JCand he says he didn't sign that form.

NP Didn't sign that form?

JC Didn't sign that form on the 23rd of the 5th, he says he hadn't signed any paperwork. Although he was willing to be DPS he didn't sign the paperwork, that's what he told....

NP Well that, that, you'll have to take that up with him because ultimately he did sign the paperwork. He's a good pal of mine, mate, so, you know, as far as I'm concerned, you know, you're barking up the wrong tree.

JC OK, that's what triggers the enquiry basically because it didn't look quite right, OK, so....

NP Well do you want to ring him up now?

JC I'm not going to speak to him at the moment....

NP Right, OK.

JCwe've already spoken to him.

NP Fine.

JC This is a statement from Jeffrey Lee who's the Licensing Manager at, at the Council where he says because of the suspicion that this was a forged signature the paperwork was immediately put away and sealed in a plastic bag, an evidence bag, so Smarty's fingerprints....

NP How would he know that?

JC Because we told him.

NP How would he know that?

JC Smarty's fingerprints are on file because he's been arrested before. Smarty's fingerprints, are they going to be on that paper that you said he signed? That's the big question, that's what you've got to think about.

NP I don't care. John, do you know what, I don't care. As far as I know, as far as I'm concerned Smarty signed the paperwork, Josh signed the paperwork and I've put it in.

JC Well we're not even sure, because when we showed Josh that signature on that he said it looks like mine.

NP Yeah of course it does, he doesn't know does he.

JC And he's put himself down as Josh Price when normally he puts himself down on official documents as Jonathan Price which again leads me to think that somebody else has filled this in.

NP Right, OK. So is there a complaint?

JC From who?

NP That's what I'm saying, is there?

JC There's a fraud.

NP Really?

JC Yeah.

NP Well as far as I'm concerned he signed that, as far as Josh is concerned, I, both them signatures are signed by them as far as I'm concerned so as far as that's all I've come here to say.

JC Well what we're putting to you is the suspicion is that you and Josh were desperate to open that pub up again, you didn't have anybody at that time to sign the forms and you forged the signatures on them and put them into the Council. I'll show you another thing on here if you like, on the application you put into the Council that you took down there yourself there's a couple of signatures, it's that one, sorry about this....

NP All right, don't worry.

JC Oh there it is, OK, that's the part where you consent, have a look there how Allan Smart writes his name, actually not the signature, A.L.A.N, Alan Smart, yeah, have a look at his real name, how he writes it, A.L.L.A.N, Allan Smart, is it very likely he's going to get his name wrong on an official document?

NP No, I know some of the paperwork wasn't filled out properly.

JC Yeah.

NP The, the printing....

JC Yeah.

NP so I know that some of the printing had to be finished off.

JC So you finished it off?

NP Yeah.

JC You finished it off?

NP Yeah.

JC Why was it not, you said he signed it in front of you.

NP Oh he signed it.

JC He signed it.

NP His signature has been signed.

JC And he didn't fill it in?

NP No I, no, well obviously not. I had to check all the paperwork before it went in, yeah, and there was a couple of pieces that weren't, weren't filled out so I....

JC How did you get all the details for this then?

NP How did I get them?

JC Yeah.

NP I, I spoke to him about it.

JC Yeah? All right, give me a sample of your handwriting then on a bit of paper. Well, on the back of here. If you write, let me see, Flintshire County Council and the word Allan, yeah?

NP Yeah.

JC If you write it.

NP That, that handwriting, do you want to know who's handwriting that is?

JC Yeah.

NP It's my boy's.

JC Your boy's.

NP Because he was with me and I asked him to fill it out for me.

JC And how old is your boy?

NP 25.

JC You're not going to involve other people in this because you're going into the realms of conspiracy now.

NP What are you talking about?

JC If you're going to involve other people in something that's happened that's dishonest....

NP That is my son's....

JC Well why didn't you say that a minute ago when I asked you?

NP Because we had to fill out the

JC You said you filled it in.

NP I didn't fill it in.

JM Where were you?

NP At my house.

JM Where was Allan Smart?

NP On the end of the phone.

JM So how did he, how did he physically sign the form?

NP He'd signed it bef-, he'd signed it before, we hadn't filled the rest of it out.

JM The day before was when you discovered that Ron wasn't....

NP That was the Thursday mate, this is the following, this is the following week.

JM Oh right, that's what I'm trying to get....

NP Yeah, so....

JMso you....

NP A week, like 8 days.

JM And where does Mr, where does Allan Smart live?

NP He lives up in, well, he lives in a couple of places actually, he doesn't live in his pub anymore, he lives in Manchester with his girlfriend or he lives in North Wales.

JM So obviously distant places, so how did the form, I'm, you know, the mechanics of it, where did, how did he get the form, where did he send it to, how did he do it? I mean you've told us it was a blank form he signed.....

JC Yeah.

JMwhen was that done?

NP Oh God, that week, I think it was a Sunday.

JM Not sure?

NP Might be Monday.

JM Right, the Sunday after the Thursday?

NP Yeah, I think so. Or possibly Monday.

JM Right.

JC Why didn't you fill it in then?

NP Uh?

JC Why didn't you fill it in?

NP No reason really, my boy did it for me, he's with me, he's filled it out.

JC And how about the last time that Allan Smart applied to be Designated Premises Supervisor which was....

NP I don't know, I wasn't....

JC Did your son fill in that form as well?

NP No.

JC Because it's the same handwriting.

NP What do you mean?

JC Same handwriting both times.

NP No he didn't, that's not the last, no, no, that's a different form.

JC That's the one back in February, yeah, and that's this one that was used, that you put into the Council, same handwriting.

NP No it's my son mate, I didn't do it.

JC He did that one as well?

NP No, not at all, that's not the one, that, you've got that wrong. You have that wrong. You have that wrong. You do. You do, that's not the same form mate, sorry, that isn't the same form.

JC OK, well we beg to differ on that.

NP Well we do and I want you to get it out because it's not the same form.

JC So it's not the same form, because it's not the same form....

NP No it's not the, no it isn't because I know that's my son's handwriting....

JC OK.

NP ...and my son never filled out the first one mate. And nor did I, I never had nothing to do with it, never saw it.

JC All right.

NP The only reason I'm anything to do with this is because my brother was in Dubai.

JC Yeah I understand that he couldn't do it.

NP So the only reason I'm involved in any of this, with very little knowledge of anything by the way boys is that I knew I had to get two sig-, you know, we had to sign two forms and they had to get in....

JC OK.

NP ...and that's what I've done.

JC Why is it then that Allan Smart told our Sergeant, Sergeant White that he had not signed the forms, would you know any reason?

NP No. Because he's a good pal of mine mate....

JC No reason?

NPwe speak five times a day. No.

JC No.

NP No. The only reason I could think was it was the same thing that your, your Officer was onto him saying that there was an incident on Sun-, on the Saturday night that you couldn't, that no-one's ever heard about, yeah, nothing's ever happened to it and if he didn't step down he would liable to prosecution, that's the same Officer mate.

JC No.

NP Why are you doing that? Don't say no because we're on, we're on tape, don't say no.

JC That's you assuming things have been said when they haven't been said.

NP No, well Smarty told me that so why would he tell me that? Why would he tell me that? Smarty is one of my best pals, why would he tell me that?

JC OK, well we'll speculate on that on another....

NP No, we'll also speculate, OK, on why Smarty would have said he never signed the form because do you know what he has signed it, he told me he signed the form.

JC OK, so his fingerprints on that paper that we've got down there?

NP I don't know mate.

JC OK.

NP I'm not a fingerprint expert am I?

JC No.

NP And do you know what, also what I want to know is why, why are you so desperate, what's happened John, what's gone on here, why are you so desperate to close that pub?

JC We're not desperate to close it at all.

NP And also when we were in that pub on the Sat-, Sunday and the Monday....

JC Yeah.

NPyeah? You sent four lots of Police up to the pub, I don't know why you did that, and also you sent a lady up, a lady Officer, a very nice Officer actually, to, to close the pub down and Allan showed his thing at the time. Why, and he was in the, why did you do that? No, can you answer me a question.

JC Why did I do that?

NP No, why did the Licensing or whoever that is that comes up, why are you that interested in the pub?

JC What day are you talking about?

NP We're talking about Sunday and Monday, talking about the Sunday of the Play Off Final....

JC Yeah.

NP or was it the Monday, Monday of the Play Off Final and the Sunday.

10:14:50 JC I can tell you why, because that application wasn't put in until late on the Friday night, right, OK, so the Police didn't know that the application had been put in.

NP Why not?

JC Because they don't, that's the mechanics of it, there's nobody in Licensing Department there over the weekend, you might they should be, they're not, OK.

NP That was put in at quarter to five on Friday.

JC OK, well the Licensing Department aren't there at quarter to five on a Friday, OK? Over the weekend nobody knew because we couldn't tell them whether there had been a valid Licence Application so they came to check and as it happens they were able to confirm that there was a Licence there, however, they were briefed to check and that's what they did, that's their job and that's why it happened. They didn't shut you down.

NP No because he was there with his card and he's bona fide, now....

JC No, actually they should have done because the Licence was actually invalid because it was obtained by fraud, the signatures were false.

NP In your opinion.

JC The signatures are false. Smarty has told us that.

NP Oh well you, well why am I here then?

JC Yeah, you're here because you're the person who submitted that application.

NP Oh right, so Smarty's told you they were false, he hasn't signed them and they're not his.

JC Yeah, and you put the application in.

NP Right.

JC And you've mis-spelled bits and pieces on that.

NP No, my, no, we've had to fill out stuff that he didn't fill out. He signed the form, as far as I'm concerned the forms are signed by both the right people and they were submitted in the proper manner.

JC Why didn't you, if he's a good friends of yours, why didn't you fill in the form begs the question?

JM Why didn't he fill in the form, that's what I don't understand. If it was sent to him, I, I mean was it sent to him, you don't know the answer to this I'm assuming because you didn't say earlier, is it sent to him in Manchester or sent to him in North Wales. He signed it but didn't, sent it back but didn't fill in any of the details in on the form?

NP We had to fill, look, when it came back, right, when I got it it was, I'm sorry but there was things not, not....

JC You said he signed it in front of you.

NP I, no....

JC You said a minute ago.

NP He came down, no he came down, right, earlier in the week on the Sunday or the Monday, I had to send the form up to him for him to sign it. He sent it back and it was not filled out.

JC Maybe I misheard it because I'm sure....

JM No I think you did, I think you said he signed....

NP He didn't sign it in front of me, I sent it to him.

JC Oh, right.

NP Sorry.

JC And then he sent it back to you?

NP And then he....

JC He did in the post didn't he?

NP Yes.

JC All right, that, that makes that clear because I was under, labouring under the impression that....

NP Sorry, no, I, sorry, yeah.

JC So you him up the, or somebody sent him up the blank form, all he's done is put a signature on, he hasn't filled in any details....

NP And I had to fill it out when it came back down, or my boy had to fill it out.

JC That's a bit careless of him wasn't it really?

JM Who sent the form, did you send the form or did Josh send the form?

NP Yeah.

JM You sent the form?

NP Yeah.

JM Josh went on holiday on the Friday after the Thursday night so he, basically Ron had resigned....

NP Josh, Josh had a form, Josh signed the form as well and said look you've got to sort, get Smarty to sort this out so I got Smarty to sort it out.

JC Right.

NP And that's where we are.

JC So it was, let me see, let me see, Ron resigned on the Wednesday....

NP Thursday.

JC Thursday.

NP I, well look I don't know because it's nothing to do with me.

JC OK.

NP I got told that oh my God, this is what's happened.

JC So who sent the form to, to Allan? You did?

NP Yeah.

JC OK, that's on the Thursday and on the Friday you're down the Council presenting that form?

NP The following Friday.

JC The following Friday, OK, I'm understanding now but he didn't sign it in front of you like you told us earlier?

NP No I, I didn't, when I said he signed it in front of me I didn't, I mean signed it, yeah, and sent it back, sorry, that's my, my problem.

JC OK. I'm, I'm just trying to look at this from....

NP Listen, if you look at it logically John, if you look at it logically....

JC Yeah.

NP ...right, Thursday night no DPS, now we've got 10 days, 11 days before we're going to open again technically, yeah?

JC Yeah.

NP Now I've been left with holding the baby basically, the pub needs to be open, yeah, it's blah, blah, blah, blah, I don't know what particularly I'm doing and I'm being honest, you know, being up front with you, I've never signed any of these forms, I never saw the first form and if, if my son's, my son's, if you're saying my son's writing's on the first form you are not correct. His fingerprints will be on there if you want to check. What I'm trying to say to you is I've had to get the form signed, I've got them the best way I can and then when the, I've got all the forms filled out correctly with everybody's consent, OK, so as far as I'm concerned we've then paid the money and we're in and he told me it was down the, down the Licensing place, he said as soon as that form's in it's instant, am I right?

JC If it's legal.

NP That's what, listen, you're saying it's not legal, right, I'm saying I did what I could here, right. Now as far as we were concerned it's legal, it's in with the Council, it's in with you, right, at 10 to 5, quarter to 5, whatever it was on the Friday, everybody's a winner. You've had no end of people come up the pub to see who's in the pub, right, and you can't tell me that's no coincidence because for me it's huge.

JC Right.

NP He showed everything, he's in there, both, all the time that the pub was open and, wish we hadn't because it didn't make any money anyway because they lost, right, so that's the bottom line, OK, so that's where we are.

10:19:30

JC Did you put these forms in with the intention of trying to obtain a Licence even though....

NP No. Allan Smart was going to get a job down here but unfortunately because of your Officer that's phoned, that's actually phoned up and actually squeezed him, to be fair mate, you know you can squeeze people you lot, you can squeeze people, you know what it's like, you know the score....

JC Do you know why Allan Smart is not suitable to us?

NP I'm not interested, that's his personal business to be honest.

JC Let me tell you because you did put him up as DPS, he's not suitable because he's got a criminal record that involves violence.

NP 10 years ago was it?

JC No, recently, in his own pub fighting with Police.

NP Right.

JC So he's not suitable.

NP OK, that, and that, and that's absolutely your prerogative to go no....

JC Yeah.

NPright, and I do understand that and I understand only through default that there, that there's 14 days for you go to no, is that correct?

JC Yeah.

NP I don't understand what we've done wrong.

JC Submitted....

NP No we haven't. I don't understand what we've done wrong mate.

JC OK.

NP To be honest, listen, I'm not here to say whether that's, you know, this or that, all I'm saying to you is I got Smarty to sign the form, we filled out the bits he didn't fill out or, or with the need to be filled out with the printing, right, got all the details....

JC OK...

NPJosh has.....

JCthis is really, really difficult for me to accept and I'm sure it's very, very difficult for the average man in the street to accept that he was sent a form, didn't fill in any details and sent it back with just a signature, didn't even put his name on it, that's really, really difficult to accept as true and that's why then, and I would think, and I don't want to pre-judge or anything, the average person in the street would find that very, very difficult to accept. Any comment on that?

NP No.

JC None at all?

NP No.

JC That would be normal....

NP Because no, because do you know what, right, I, I, if I'm being honest John I resent being here, I've had to have a day off work, you, you, two weeks ago....

JC Yeah.

NP you dropped me at the last minute to come and do this.

JC We had to, there was a big safety issue.

NP I, I don't really care about that, I don't care about a safety issue, all I'm saying to you is....

JC You don't care about safety issues?

NP I don't care anybody else, I care about me.

JC That's....

NP You know what you've got going on is your problem, what I've got going on, if I hadn't turned up today and gone safety issue John you'd want to know why I weren't here so anyway, that's by the by, all I'm saying to you is I'm here and I'm telling you exactly what we did together, with everybody's consent, OK, for that big, that big couple of days. You've obviously made this very difficult, from what I can see along the way. We, someone's appeared, we've appeared up here before, Josh has appeared up here with, when you closed the pub for ridiculous reasons by the way before on the Crystal Palace game, you've had noth-, you talk about incidents at the pub, right, I haven't seen any, there haven't been any arrests in that pub and it's right over from the ground. I'm in that pub regularly, the last two games Cardiff and, and, two of the big games, you're parking

stuff across the front and then you're saying (inaudible) pub, what do you expect John, I've even gone out and asked people please you can't be doing that, oh it's not (inaudible) what I'm trying to say is John I don't think, and what I'm getting to, that you or any of the Police or anybody has worked one iota with that pub and now what you see is a little angle to try and cause the pub a problem because I think you think if me and him are not connected to that pub that pub don't open, it don't open match days and you as Licensing people and coppers on the match day don't have a problem with a pub. You don't want it open because it's a ball ache for you.

JC The incident that brought all this to notice was the fact that The Red Lion was open at half past 10 on a Sunday when it didn't have a Licence.

NP That was two weeks before.

JC And that was illegal.

NP Right....

JC You can start blaming us for that and everything but it did happen, it was the decision of Josh and the people who were working there.

NP No I don't know anything about that, I don't know what the licensing hours are, I don't know what, what the rules and rates, mate, are....

JC No but....

NPall I, all I know is....

- JC You asked me if we've got a vendetta.
- NP John, it's been going on since last year mate. That, see that's what I'm saying to you, you're waiting for that pub to do something a little bit wrong or, you know, something to happen. You've mentioned in the last thing we went – what are these incidents John you've mentioned, you've never come up with them mate.
- JC We're going off track and....
- NP Yeah, we are....
- JC it's not a conspiracy against.....
- NP Well, look, take your conspiracy, right, I've told you what I've said, there's no conspiracy, I'm not Abu Hamza, I'm not threatening anybody's life, right, I've got them two boys to sign that thing, we've put the form in, under duress because you frightened off the DPS on Thursday night. We got them in, we got them in in time, the forms were filled out properly, the money was paid, Smarty was on site all weekend with his card and there was no incidents as far as I'm concerned or I know of, you might concoct one. But what I'm trying to say is I'm here John in good faith to speak to you and say that's the way it is, this is what we did, I don't know what more you want me to say mate.
- JC No, OK, I don't think we're going to go any further because I don't think you're going to change what you're saying.
- NP Well of course I'm not because it's the truth John.

JC OK, we'll conclude this interview now, unless there's any more
 you want to say.

NP No.

JC Right, hang on, let's do all this properly. We're going to give
 you a notice in a minute when we turn off the tapes and we're
 going to seal the tapes in your presence. If this matter goes
 before the Court you will get a copy....

NP Yeah.

JC but otherwise you won't.

NP OK, no worries mate.

JC The time by my watch is 10.56, I'm turning off the tapes.

