

**Application for the REVIEW of a Premises Licence ~~or Club Premises Certificate~~
under the Licensing Act 2003**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary.

You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

✚ We Pendle Borough Council – Commercial Team (Housing, Health and Engineering Section)

(Insert name of applicant)

apply for the review of a Premises Licence under section 51 / apply for the review of a Club Premises Certificate under section 87 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below (delete as applicable)

Part 1 – Premises or Club Premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description

Name of Premises: **AJs Bar and Grill**

Address: **8 The Butts**

Post town **Barnoldswick**

Post code (if known) **BB18 5HP**

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known)

Miss Amelia Abrahams

Number of Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate (if known)

PEN(A)0407

Part 2 - Applicant details

I am:

Please tick ✓ yes

1) an individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) or (B) below)

2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below)

3) a member of the club to which this application relates (please complete (A) below)

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address

Name: **Mr William Lewis**

Designation: **Environmental Protection Officer**

Place of work:

c/o Pendle Borough Council

Town Hall

Market Street

Nelson

Lancashire

BB9 7LG

Telephone number (if any)

01282-661063

E-mail address (optional)

William.lewis@pendle.gov.uk

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)

- 1) The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- 2) Public Safety
- 3) The Prevention of Public Nuisance
- 4) The Protection of Children from Harm

Please tick one or more boxes ✓

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 2)

The reason for the review is for over a year we have been receiving complaints about music from the premises causing a public nuisance in local residents' homes, particularly disturbing them when they are trying to relax in the evenings.

There have also been complaints of anti-social behaviour on the street associated with the bar, including shouting, arguing, smashed glasses left on the street, urinating, and people being sick at the rear of the premises.

The premises are not meeting the Licensing Act 2003 licence objectives being:

- The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Public Safety
- Prevention of Public Nuisance
- The Protection of Children from Harm

See further down this form for full details.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application

(please read guidance note 3)

I along with Wajed Iqbal – PBC Licensing Officer, and Stephen Dundon, Lancashire Police Licensing Sergeant met with Amelia Abrahams, her business partner Adrian, and a member of the public on 12/06/2024 upstairs in the Barnoldswick Town Council building to discuss the complaints.

I explained to Amelia that although I had not proven a statutory nuisance under the Environmental Protection Act, we did have evidence demonstrating that they were in breach of their premises licence regarding music being audible outside the premises.

Amelia pointed out that the condition was quite onerous and hard to meet. I explained that it had been written that way some years ago due to the very close proximity of residential neighbours, in order to protect the amenity of the area with specific regard to noise and music from the premises.

Amelia explained that when they bought the premises their intention had been to turn it into a restaurant. However, as this had not been successful, they were forced to change direction to protect their investment, which is when they decided to turn it into a bar.

At this meeting we discussed the noise issues within the premises and what actions could be taken to reduce them. The resident present explained their complaints and concerns about how the premises was being managed, including anti-social behaviour on the street such as shouting, arguing, urinating at the rear of the premises, people being sick, and broken glass being left around.

Amelia assured everyone at the meeting that she took the issues very seriously and would resolve the problems. Over a year later, however, I continue to receive complaints from residents about music/noise being heard in their homes causing disturbance and sleep disruption, as well as continued anti-social behaviour on the street.

Since the meeting, I along with partner agencies have had further meetings with Amelia and I have regularly emailed her after receiving complaints. Amelia always assures me that she is doing her best and takes the issue seriously, but the problem continues to reoccur.

Following the meeting, I returned to the premises to review what actions could be taken. I talked Amelia through how to carry out a simple “by ear” test at the beginning of the evening to check if the music was too loud: simply stand at the front door of [REDACTED], and if the music is audible, it is too loud and needs to be turned down.

On 18/02/2025, Wajed Iqbal and I met with Amelia and a colleague at the premises. We explained that we were still receiving complaints and that I had received noise app recordings demonstrating a breach. We wanted to help resolve the problem and therefore carried out a sound check. We established that through the venue’s own system, prerecorded music could be played at maximum volume without causing a problem, as long as all windows and doors were kept shut. At the time, this gave us some confidence that the premises could be used in the way Amelia intends, as long as it was properly managed.

At this meeting we also agreed with Amelia that all windows and doors would be kept

shut as much as possible; that the main door would not be used after 9pm; that she would install a new, better fitting kitchen door to prevent noise leakage, and that the old kitchen fan would be blocked off to stop noise escaping and stop staff from using the kitchen door to enter, leave, or smoke outside, as this attracts patrons to the rear of the property near residential properties.

Amelia again assured us that these action points would be dealt with and that she takes the matter seriously.

Following further complaints, Amelia arranged a meeting with residents at the premises. I and other partner agencies, did not attend as we felt we had already provided all the advice we could regarding noise.

At this meeting Amelia allegedly agreed to put up a fence at the rear of the premises to stop people accessing the area close to residential properties.

Following further complaints of public nuisance and anti-social behaviour, on 16/08/2025 Wajed Iqbal requested CCTV footage for the night. The management could not provide CCTV footage from inside the premises, which is a breach of their licence. They did provide footage of the outside areas. I reviewed the footage from the rear door camera, which showed the door being regularly left open, allowing noise to escape. Between 12am and 1am, the door was left open more than it was closed. This demonstrates poor management and is part of the reason the premises requires door staff.

Since the first meeting, I have received 43 noise app submissions demonstrating that music is being heard inside a neighbouring residential property or that anti-social behaviour is occurring on the street near the bar. The vast majority of recordings are from Friday and Saturday nights. A CD with these recordings has been provided which will be available to the Licensing Committee.

To date, the kitchen door has never been replaced, the fence has not been erected, the noise test is clearly not being carried out, and the side entrance door (to be used after 9pm) is not being managed and kept closed.

We have repeatedly discussed these issues with Amelia, and I have demonstrated how to carry out a basic by ear noise assessment at the premises to ensure the activities do not cause problems. I have regularly reported these incidents to Amelia and have been regularly assured that the issues will be dealt with, but the same problems keep reoccurring. I have provided a file with all emails to and from Amelia in 2025.

A breach of the premises licence was witnessed by Paul Thwaites from Hyndburn Council on 01/11/2025, and again by me on 16/11/2025.

Paul Thwaites reported that when he arrived on site at 10:08pm, the rear entrance door over the bridge was open and music could clearly be heard from his car with the windows closed, and that the door remained open for about three minutes.

At 22:20pm he went to the front door of [REDACTED] and could hear music emanating from the fire exit (the kitchen door, which has never been replaced), including the bass. This is a breach of their licence and exactly the issue the resident has complained about, showing that they are not carrying out the noise test and not making sufficient effort to keep doors shut.

A copy of Paul Thwaites note from the visit are in the file.

I visited the premises on 16/11/2025 to check for breaches of the licence, which were

clearly occurring.

I arrived at midnight and left at 12:30am.

Music could be heard beyond the curtilage of the premises. People were trying to enter through the main front door, causing disruption on the street. The rear door (at the bridge) was left open for extended periods without staff control, and there were people smoking just inside the premises. I could still hear music from the premises further up the street at number [REDACTED].

This represented a breach of their premises license, my notes from this visit have been written up and are in the file titled Friday 14th November.

The current management, over the past year and a half, have demonstrated that they cannot implement the management techniques necessary to operate the premises without breaching their licence.

I have tried to work with the premises owner and licensee along with partner agencies to resolve these problems, and have made suggestions to help resolve these issues, which have been accepted, but the problems persist because of poor management of the premises.

Therefore, in my capacity as Environmental Protection Officer for Pendle Borough Council I am requesting the Premises Licence be reviewed in terms timings for licensable activities. I am also requesting the Licensing Committee impose further conditions on the premises which will resolve the issues in terms of noise and other matters.

Please tick ✓ yes

Have you made an application for review relating to the premises before

If yes please state the date of that application

Day	Month	Year

If you have made representations before relating to the premises, please state what they were and when you made them

Not applicable.


Please tick ✓ yes

- I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the Premises Licence holder or Club holding the Club Premises Certificate, as appropriate
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected

IT IS AN OFFENCE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

Signature of applicant or applicant’s solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). **If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.**

Signature 
.....

Date 16/02/2026
.....

Capacity Environmental Protection Officer
.....

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)	
Post town	Post Code
Telephone number (if any)	
If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional)	

Notes for Guidance

1. A responsible authority includes the local police, fire and rescue authority and other statutory bodies which exercise specific functions in the local area.
2. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
3. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
4. The application form must be signed.
5. An applicant’s agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
6. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.