

Witness Statement

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN: [] [] [] []

Statement of: Kevin Misik

Age if under 18 (if over insert "over 18"): Over 18 Occupation: Police Officer

This statement (consisting of1..... Pages(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it, anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: _____ **Date: 01/12/2014** _____

I am PS 686 Kevin Misik of Cambridgeshire Constabulary and I am currently stationed at Parkside Police Station. My current role is as a sergeant within the West Cambridge Problem solving Team. One of my roles within this is as the tactical lead for Cambridge City on Street based anti-social behaviour.

I am providing this statement to present a pen picture of Mill Road and some of the issues that it suffers from.

Mill Road is one of the main roads into Cambridge City centre and has along its length a large number of different businesses ranging from pubs and restaurants to book and charity shops. Also along the length of Mill Road there are also a wide range of types of accommodation but the end nearest to Cambridge is made up of mostly student accommodation and houses of multiple occupancy.

At the Cambridge end of the Road are two green spaces. On one side of the road is Petersfield Green which is an open space which has children's play park in it. This park is bordered by Jimmies Assessment Centre which is the main assessment centre in Cambridge for homelessness. Because of this the Park is also referred to as Jimmies Park. There are frequent calls about groups of Street drinkers in the area which have caused considerable distress to the residents of Petersfield Mansions there have also been reports from people who have been unable to use the children's play equipment. It should be noted that in the vast majority of people related to this Anti-Social behaviour are not from Jimmies. On the opposite side of the road is the Parkside Swimming pool which has a large green space in front of it and this is called Donkey Common. Again there have been issues of congregation and street drinking around the swimming pool. Opposite this area there is some student accommodation and there have been complaints from these due to the behaviour of people and also some safeguarding concerns from the colleges whose students who are accommodated there. Further along Mill Road there is also a large cemetery.

The Cemetery has at times acted as a draw for street drinkers to congregate and drink in due to its location.

Signature: _____ **Signature Witnessed by:** _____

There are also a number of locations along the length of Mill Road which house elderly or venerable people one of the main ones is the sheltered accommodation at Ditchburn Place, which is made up of 51 flats. In front of this location there are a set of gardens for the use of residents and this has been a hot spot in terms of reported Anti-Social Behaviour. This has meant at times the exterior gates to the gardens have to be kept locked to ensure that the residents are not caused alarm and distress by these groups of street drinkers. There is also a covered bus stop next to this location which is often 'taken over' by street drinkers meaning the people are either unable to use the bus stop.

There have also been issues at other places along the road. These have historically included the public toilets at the junction of Gwydir Street, the play Park areas on either side of the bridge and outside the larger shops, for example Tesco or the Co-Op. These areas have all suffered from a disproportionately high level of Anti-Social Behaviour. These areas have been key locations which groups of street drinkers have congregated which has meant that other people in the area have not been able to use them. This has resulted in a significant number of calls to the police regarding Anti-Social behaviour.

As a result of these on-going issues the Police have posted a PCSO Anthony Marriot who main responsibility is policing and interaction with the various communities that make up Mill Road.