

Appendix 1

Statements from residents of Cae Dre Street, Bridgend and Dentist Practice

Properties in Cae Dre Street and the dentist practice is in very close proximity to the existing HMO at 12, Park Street Bridgend (Wallich)

The proposed HMO at 14, Park Street Bridgend is adjoining the HMO at 12, Park Street. Bridgend,

Evidence given to me in writing by 6 residents and the dental practice of Anti-Social Behaviour.

I have listed below extracts from the letters that I have received from residents of Cae Dre Street, Bridgend and the dental practice situated at 16, Park Street, Bridgend.

- In the three years that I have lived in Cae Dre Street I've had to call the police due to fighting and shouting in the street between youths connected to residents at the Wallich. I've been shouted at from the top loft windows of the Wallich by residents and had to explain to the kids, who are 4 and 6 who are often alarmed that they are not going to harm them. I've had to explain why there was a lady crying and bleeding sat outside the front door of the Wallich, why there's sick and broken glass on the pavement and why people are shouting at each other in the street.
I also fear for the safety of my car and given the appalling state of parking on the street I'm often parked in spaces in the lane behind the Wallich, panicked that someone is going to do something to the car. That car is our lifeline as my disabled mother relies on me for transport to appointments.
The street-light is currently broken in our street, once again. This is the only light at the top of the street.
- I worry about using the back entrance to our property as I have seen people hanging about in the lane (I believe dealing drugs).
I worry when I come home from work in the winter when its dark as there are frequently people hanging about at the front of the Wallich and in the car park (which is at the rear of the Wallich) my husband usually comes to walk with me from the train station, so I don't have to walk alone.
I hear music coming from the back of the Wallich at night (after 11.30pm). I have tried calling their office and they said they couldn't hear it from the front of the same building (our house is across the parking spaces and the other side of the. Road and we could hear it above the volume of the TV with our double-glazed windows closed). They asked a lot of questions about who I was and where I was and my husband was concerned that there might be repercussions if the person/people playing music knew who had complained so I have not felt comfortable contacting them directly since.
In January 2022 we were home but upstairs when our home was broken into. My Handbag/purse, a wallet a set of house keys and a passport was stolen. Due to a pet camera the police were able to identify the person who was found at a nearby homeless shelter. Walesonline report stated, *In his police interview,*

****** denied the burglary, saying he was at the nearby Kerrigan Project at the time of the incident, and that he had withdrawn the money he was found with from a cash point a few days earlier. However, he later admitted being the man in the pet camera footage, and said that he had used the stolen money to purchase drugs.*

(The person was found at a nearby homeless shelter)

(Walesonline report available).

- There have been a couple of occasions when there have been overdoses in the street. When returning from a holiday we saw a man face down outside the dentist. An ambulance was called as we were concerned whether the person was still alive. A paramedic arrived recognised the man as a 'regular' he gave him an injection and called for an ambulance.

The problem is also dependent on who is in residence at No 12, Park Street at the time and their relationship with other groups of friends that assemble outside. Some are very confrontational. One large group badly damaged the garden wall of one of our neighbours, smashing the cast iron fencing.

The problems are far greater in the fine weather when windows and the skylight are open. It not only music but shouting and obscenities.

It is difficult to quantify the scale of the problem (ie the number of incidents) with dates.

On one occasion there were a large group of youths standing along the lane and right up to the Dentist's. It was the noise that they were making that made us aware of them. My partner & I along with a few others in the street who had heard the noise strolled down and calmly asked them to move back to the front of the building at which point one moved towards us and threatened to beat ***** up (***** is in his late 70's. Only the intervention of a younger neighbour prevented any violent action. They then moved out of the street.

- The troubles we have come across since the Wallich and other HMO's have been placed in the area are affecting mine & my family's lives in a negative way. I have two children which are special needs. My eldest son who is 16 has autism was walking home with his sister from school they got to the bottom of Newcastle Hill, where our back gate and driveway are situated just off the car park. My son was told to empty his pockets by a group in masks that my daughter recognised as one living in the Wallich. My son scared ran up to our gate. He was too afraid to ring police as he didn't want repercussions. He has been cornered by this group a couple of times.

On numerous occasions in the middle of the day my husband has had to ask them to please hide their drug paraphernalia from the children which most of them listen to but most of the time we get abuse back.

All through the summer the residents sit in the car park playing really loud music smoking bongos and being rowdy.

My children are too afraid to go out to play as they used to and I don't feel comfortable with them going out it isn't safe and they are seeing things that they should not.

- Since moving to the street, we have had massive concerns and issues with the two HMO's already here.

We have a young family and due to the establishments already here they are being exposed to things daily that they should not be seeing. There has been a massive rise in anti-social behaviour in the street using drugs and under the influence. In the lane behind the Wallich, we sometimes see people blatantly involved in the selling and using of drugs not only at night but in broad daylight, needles being left behind, people passed out. In the street due to drug and alcohol misuse resulting in residents needing to call for ambulances and the police. We have been exposed to shouting and screaming abusive language and fighting during the day and all hours of the night. Our children are scared and do not feel safe when there are groups of young adults shouting and swearing which is very frightening and intimidating to us, never mind our young children.

- I have been housebound due to ill health for the past two years. I have had to make numerous complaints by phone to the 24 hours Wallich line. I have endured extremely loud music and shouting with very bad language both day and night, but it's usually the music that is the biggest problem. The frequency of these calls average at least 3 to 4 times a month at times ranging from 11.30pm to 2.45am.
In the summer months if they decide to play music the same volume as they do at night and that has been the case causing more phone calls from me, I have had to close my windows and patio doors whilst sweltering in the heat.
- Beynon's dentist practice
Problems experienced since the Wallich has been operational
- Used needles left in car park
- People sleeping/collapsed in doorway
- Drug use in car park
- Urinating under surgery window
- Smoking drugs under surgery window
- Injecting drugs in surgery toilet
- Groups of youths intimidating nurses and female dentist in car park when walking to their cars
- Sexual harassing comments to nurses
- Verbal abuse of staff