

Continuation of Statement of

Acme Unit

legal high. As we passed the car Mr Cordell quickly lowered the boot. I queried Mr Cordell about the gas and pointed out that it was on the news earlier how Nitrous oxide was dangerous and Mr Cordell stated that the Government would probably ban it soon like everything else. Mr Cordell was polite and showed us around the site which appeared to be a large concreted area that was completely open to the air. There was a large sound system to the rear which was amplified though I could not see any power source. There was a number of people wearing yellow hi-vis jackets who Mr Cordell stated were first aiders and there was a pallet of water near to the sound system as well as a couple of tents closer to the gates. I could see no obvious Toilet facilities nor shelter from what had been forecast as a stormy night. Inside the venue mostly just stood around in small groups were about 30 people, mostly teenagers. Mr Cordell stated he was an entrepreneur and was awaiting licences from the council so that he would soon be legitimate. When I explained all the "ingredients" for a rave were present Mr Cordell began to try and argue his point that it was not a rave and that it was a private party. I spoke at length with Mr Cordell explaining the legal situation and how by definition this was a rave and that ultimately there were too few people present at the time to stop police and so on this occasion I could act and close the rave. Whilst on an industrial estate it was my opinion that such was the proximity to local housing and my knowledge of the volume music is played and the duration it is played for, often throughout the weekend that a rave would constitute serious disruption. Mr Cordell was clearly not happy but did not want his equipment seized so agreed to start packing up the sound equipment. Whilst talking with Mr Cordell there were small groups of teenagers arriving at the site and entering via a break in the fence, (the gates still being shut at this time). I got Ps Ames to get units to us to prevent further people trespassing on the land and to discourage people from attending the location and exited the venue to await Mr Cordell's exit with the sound equipment. Whilst waiting I radioed for the on-call Superintendent so I could get the various Rave legislation approved so that I could seize the sound equipment and enforce a rave cordon on Millmarsh Lane to prevent people entering. Whilst stood by the venue a number of people began leaving, most were laughing but the odd one was blaming police for stopping the event. Suddenly there was a huge number of mainly teenagers walking towards me from the direction of Mollison Avenue. Apparently this group had all arrived together from the nearby railway station. Straight away some of this group headed straight towards us saying they were going to storm the place. I had been joined by a few team officers and we advised them that the rave had been closed down and they would not be allowed to enter. There was some verbal confrontation but the large group which was up to 100 strong moved off round the corner with some overheard saying they would break in round the corner. As they began to move off Mr Cordell stood by the break in the fence and shouted words to the effect of, "Come on, there is more of you". I quickly went up to Mr Cordell and told him to stop or I would arrest him to prevent a breach of the peace. At this Mr Cordell went back and stayed away. The large group did indeed try to get into adjoining premises that they thought led to the rave venue but were stopped by officers and moved off back into Millmarsh lane, although one officer Pc Wale was injured during a struggle. I requested the attendance of as many units as possible including dogs and TSG as the

Signature:



Signature witnessed by: