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20.4.2006

## End of the pier show for club?

### LAST DANCE: Future of town venue is in the balance

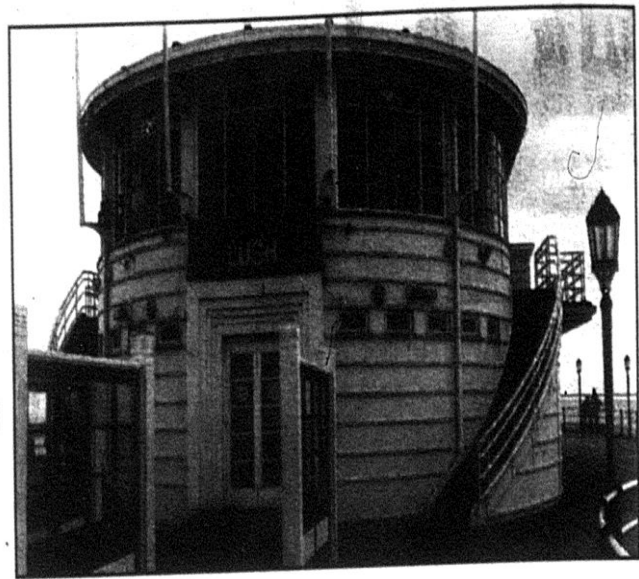
THE sign on the door says "closed until further notice".

But rumours are beginning to circulate that Worthing Pier's days - or rather nights - of hosting cheesy dance music and tipsy teenagers may have come to an end.

Lush, the latest incarnation of nightclub to grace the wooden promontory, may have closed its doors for good.

"As far as I've been told, they haven't got any imminent plans to reopen," said Paul High, Worthing Council cabinet member for culture, leisure and sport.

Two months after the nightspot, formerly



■ BEHIND CLOSED DOORS: Lush nightclub at the end of Worthing Pier



By Chris Taylor

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known as Rutherford's, closed its doors, a peek through the windows reveals tables haphazardly clustered near depressed and

empty bars.

Seating areas are noticeable by their absence and a sprinkling of masonry around the floor suggest a brutal removal job.

Lush's owners, Luminar, have refused to comment on the future of the club but unsuccessful attempts to sell on the lease last year do not suggest confidence in the enterprise.

Worthing Council is in no mood to do Luminar any favours, however.

"The lease is current for a few years yet," said Mr High, "Until we are in a position to re-market or re-lease, there's not much we can do. It's up to them to give it up."

For more resources visit: [www.worthingpier.org.uk](http://www.worthingpier.org.uk)