

LICENSING ACT 2003

Environmental Health TEN Consultation Response

Date Received: 21st May 2012

Name of Applicant: Dawn Ward

Address to which application relates: Warford Hall
Warford Hall Drive
Great Warford
SK9 7TP

Date of event(s): 15th September 2012 19.00hrs to
16th September 2012 02.00hrs

☐ Approve

☒ Object Grounds:- Prevention of Public Nuisance

Observations

This is now an annual re occurring event in a marquee involving live and other amplified music, with significant attendees (450).

The community where the event has been in the past and is again proposed to be held this year is small and relatively rural. However, there are a number of close neighbours, located on a small narrow access road.

In 2010 this event prompted numerous and significant complaints regarding noise from the event, related traffic noise and people noise when the event finally finished. This event was alleged to significantly over run. Information suggested that the TENS permitted event finished at the said time but the organisers continued a private party to 4.30am, (-like a lock in) as reported by a number of complainants and later confirmed by the organisers. Following this event the parish council was involved to help with communication with the local community.

The 2011 event was notified and at this time the licensing laws did not permit us to object.

Therefore considerable liaison was undertaken between ourselves, the police, the event organisers (-a professional event organising company) and the parish council to try and mitigate the public nuisance impact from the 2011 event.

We required traffic signage to the correct entrance -as one end of a named road is blocked off causing confusion and traffic access issues both on arrival and departure with taxis using sat nav, etc.

We required neighbour and community liaison via means of a letter drop, complete with organiser contact numbers.

Meeting at the police station to try and gain improvements on the night.

Parish council meetings were held before and after the event to address issues of both noise and traffic management.

Following the event we received complaints that the event over ran again by some 20 minutes. This was additionally disappointing as we placed great store in the hours controls in the 2011 year and had clear acknowledgement from the organisers of the curfew time and the need to stick to it after the 2010 event overrun, this was shared with the community in the letter drop.

This overrun was later confirmed by the organisers, as there was a health issue with an attendee.

In subsequent debrief meetings and the parish council meeting following the event where the organisers attended, we were strongly led to believe, if not confirmed, that the event was so popular and oversubscribed that all future events would be held in a bigger and more appropriate purpose built entertainment venue, thus this community issue would not be occurring in the future. Whilst the general feeling was the event was better, some residents still felt marginalised and that young families had to put up with the event.

Thus we are very disappointed that this TENs application has been submitted for the same marquee event as has caused significant disturbances and time over runs as previous years.

We have not had any additional mitigation information submitted, nor have we or the parish council, that I am aware, been invited into any discussions regarding the proposed event with a view of improving the events noise or traffic management. Given the work, meetings, parish and community involvement needed last year we would have expected that the organisers recognise the community issues and volunteer amelioration to support this application which is sadly not the case.

This event is again in a marquee within a private dwelling garden. Marquees provide little or no noise attenuation, thus the community is subjected to the full noise produced by professional -amplifier equipment with significant attendee numbers (-up to 450). They are also faced with the associated noise of people coming and going, and even if the event finishes on time (-2am), there will still be a period of noise beyond this time as 450 people disperse via vehicles.

For information there are a number of dwellings on Warford Hall Drive that are affected by the events and due to the open field aspect of the area, the terrace and semi-detached dwellings on Merrymans Lane also face the proposed venue, the medium distance and trees provide little acoustic attenuation.

Consequently Environmental Health must regretfully object to the granting of the Temporary Event Notice under the licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance.

Signed.....Hamish Roscoe. Senior Enforcement Officer Environmental Health Dep't Cheshire East Borough Council.

date.....22.5.012.....