From:

To: licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk>

Sent:

11 June 2009 18:27

Subject:

Application for a premises license @ Toft Cricket Club, Booths Hall, Chelford Road, Knutsford,

Cheshire WA16 8QX.

My name is and I live at Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 8NF. I wish to object to the above application on the following grounds:-

- as my property backs immediately onto the clubhouse, noise levels from music, dancing, singing, loud voices, vehicle movements etc. can already be very

disturbing from night events that already take place. Consequently I would not want the number of events to significantly increase with the club obtaining

an "open" license, particularly until 1am, as this level of disturbance would become unacceptable.

- I believe there would also be an increased risk of damage to my rear fencing and items such as beer bottles thrown into my garden from acts of alcohol fuelled

vandalism that could occur as a result of the extended licensing.

 any increased disturbance or level of noise would have a detrimental effect on my current enjoyment of the property in which I live and would no doubt effect its value on the open market.

With these points in mind I would want the current licensing restrictions to remain in force and not grant "carte blanche" to the club by issuing the all embracing license applied for.

PS. Hard copy of this E'Mail is being sent by post.

Cadman, Nikki

From:

Sent: 17 June 2009 13:30

To:

Cadman, Nikki

Subject: Re: PREMISES LICENCE APPLICATION - TOFT CRICKET CLUB

Dear Nikki.

Thank you for your E'Mail of the 15th.

I am pleased that the restrictions stated to do with outdoor events will be applied to the 'open' licence applied for by Toft Cricket Club.

However I would still want this 'open' licence to restrict the serving of alcohol at any event to no later than 12 midnight and the playing

of any amplified music to no later than 12.30 am within the clubhouse, so as to restrict the noise levels that carry over to my house

and to minimise the risk of any alcohol fuelled vandalism.

Yours sincerely

From: Cadman, Nikki

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2009 3:14 PM

Subject: PREMISES LICENCE APPLICATION - TOFT CRICKET CLUB

Dear I

Thank you for your email of 11th June 2009 and I note that you wish to object to the above application.

Since the application was made, we have received representation from the Police and the Environmental Health Officer who have asked that conditions be placed on the licence when it is issued, as follows:

The Police state in their response:

They have asked for outside music / marguee for Special Events, however, on clarification this would seem to be only for a limited number. One being a Summer Ball over two or three days and a further occasion for a one off event if possible, that being the case the Police would have no objections to the application provided they give 14 days notice to the Regulatory Authorities and any outside music / displays terminated at a reasonable hour and in accordance with Environmental Health Conditions'.

The Environmental Health Officer states in his response, conditions to be added as follows:

- (1) There shall be no more than two outdoor events covering no more than three consecutive days for one event and no more than one day for the other event in any calendar year.
- (2) The planned outdoor events shall be subject to 14 days notification to the Head of the Environmental Health Service prior to the events commencing.
- (3) No live amplified music shall be played at an outdoor event outside the hours of 12.00 noon to 23.00 hours.
- (4) No amplified recorded music shall be played outside the hours of 10.00 to 24.00.

These conditions have been agreed in principle with the applicants and we now await written confirmation before the licence is issued.

I wonder if these agreements make any difference to your original objection and I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Cadman, Nikki

From:

licensing CE

Sent:

24 June 2009 16:44

To:

Cadman, Nikki

Subject: FW: TOFT CRICKET CLUB - Change of licence

From:

Sent: 02 June 2009 20:42

To: licensing CE

Subject: TOFT CRICKET CLUB - Change of licence

To: The Licensing Section, Cheshire East Council

Town Hall, Macclesfield.

Re: Application for Premises Licence,

Toft Cricket Club

We live at the part of the Carrwood Estate which backs onto Toft Cricket Ground, where we have lived for thirty five years. We consider it a privilege to have such a lovely backdrop to our garden, and for many years have supported Toft Cricket Club. We do not wish to be 'kill-joys' but feel that a 'blanket' licence such as being applied for, is not appropriate. We have no objection to a late night licence being given for selective functions, such as is the case currently, but would not wish to see Toft Cricket Club turn into a potential Night Club, with all the associated hazards which would be detrimental to a residential area.



Cadman, Nikki

From:

Sent: 24 June 2009 17:44

To:

Cadman, Nikki

Cc:

Alan Plant

Subject: Toft Cricket Club

Dear Ms. Cadman,

I understand from that the objections to the Cricket Club Application have all gone missing. Below please find my original e-mail sent on June 1st. 2009:-

Dear Sir,

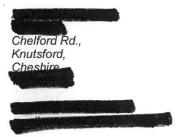
We have lived opposite Toft Cricket Club for over 25 years and although not cricketers have admired the way in which they have conducted their affairs. On occasions the members obviously enjoy themselves but on the exceptionally rare occasions where there has been any cause for complaint - no more than twice or thrice in all that time - they have instantly responded. I understand from talking to helpful officials at the Council that they currently operate under a Club Premises Certificate. Should this be somehow limiting or defective in allowing the *members and their friends* to enjoy various social activities relevant to the operation of a cricket club and its social programme, I would in no way wish to stand in the way of an extension to the terms of the current Club Premises Certificate.

On the other hand the application for a Premises License appears to change the nature of the Club's operations.

My understanding from my conversation with the Council is that, if granted, the license would allow "within the rules" the operation of all the nominated activities from 10.00 to 01.00 seven days per week -not just for the benefit of the Club Members but for the "General Public". The events in Westminster of the last few weeks have shown just how far "being within the rules" can be stretched. One has to assume that the new licence will mean that the facilities -"within the rules" - can be hired out to any and all members of the general public for the club's gain without any members of the club being present. This obviously has the potential to increase noise pollution for the neighbourhood with the consequent issues of "public nuisance". In addition there is already plenty of evidence of vehicles "coming off" that stretch of Chelford Road in the early hours of the morning. The possibility that cars could be regularly exiting the site at 01.00 every morning can only compound the risks to public safety.

I would therefore ask the Council to consider favourably *an extension of the club's existing Club Premises Certificate to* cover any reasonable activities of members and their guests which are not currently adequately covered.

I would also ask them to consider whether the grant of a Premises Licence does not change the use of the site from a Cricket Club to that of a potential Night Club operator, whether this is in the best interests of a residential area on grounds of both potential public nuisance and risk to public safety, and whether this change of use should additionally be subject to a "Change of Use" Planning Application.



In view of the obvious failure of modern communication methods, please acknowledge safe receipt of this message bu return e-mail.



Cadman, Nikki

From:

And the second s

Sent:

17 June 2009 19:02

To:

licensing CE

Subject: Application by Toft Cricket Club for a Premises License

Dear Sir

With reference to the application of Toft Cricket Club (Knutsford) on 19th May 2009 for a Premises Licence.

I am a resident of and and have been for the last 15 years and I wish to voice my objection to the proposed application for a premises licence for Toft Cricket Club.

We moved to because it was quiet being situated on the edge of town. At the time the cricket club was that, a cricket club, it did not have the licence it does now, whereby it can hold 12 noisy events a year. We certainly did not want a night club on our doorstep. The noise and disruption to us, from this club, at the moment is bad enough and we certainly wouldn't like more regular events. We certainly know when an event is being held as we can hear the music booming out till the early hours which gives our three young children sleepless nights. I also hasten to add that we were originally told when the cricket club increased it's licence a few years ago we would be notified in writing of any event which would cause noise and disruption to the residents, but these have long ceased.

The Cricket Club pavilion is a wooden structure that is not sound proofed and therefore is totally unsuitable for loud music into the small hours of the morning. Also it should be taken into account that when the actual event is over the noise doesn't stop there. We then have inebriated people singing at the top of their voices as they eventually make their way home in the early hours of the morning.

I do object to the change of its licensing to a **Premises Licence** on the grounds of increased nuisance in what is a residential area by potentially opening up the premises to none members above and beyond the current limitations of the TEN system necessary with their current licence.

Under the present system they are a cricket club who has the potential to have up to 12 events beyond their core business (a site on which to play cricket). This in itself was only granted a short while ago. Once they have a full premises licence there is nothing stopping them becoming a bar/entertainments centre that has the provision to play cricket. This is definitely not suitable for a residential area?

I would request that the Licensing Department reject the application by TCC for a full premises licence and allow them to continue operation under the limitations of their Club Premises Certificate.



Cadman, Nikki

From:

Sent:

17 June 2009 19:06

To:

licensing CE

Subject: Application by Toft Cricket Club for a Premises License

Dear Sir

With reference to the application of Toft Cricket Club (Knutsford) on 19th May 2009 for a Premises Licence.

I am a resident of and I am a resident of and I am a resident of the proposed application for a premises licence for Toft Cricket Club.

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I would request that the Licensing Department reject the application by TCC for a full premises licence and allow them to continue operation under the limitations of their Club Premises Certificate.



From: #

Sent: 15 June 2009 14:36

To: 'licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk'

Subject: Application by Toft Cricket Club for a Premises License

Dear Sir

With reference to the application of Toft Cricket Club (Knutsford) on 19th May 2009 for a Premises Licence.

After consulting with your department I understand that the above premises have to date been operating under a Club Premises Certificate in respect of their licensing, however they now wish to change this and have applied for a Premise Licence.

Toft Cricket Club as they operate at present is a wonderful neighbour to have. Summer evenings with the sound of 'leather on willow' are quite special and are all part of the rural idyll.

TCC also hold none cricket related events at their premises open to none club members, I believe covered under Temporary Event Notices (TEN) system. These include events with live music, 18th birthday parties etc.

One such event would be in summer (next one on weekend of 26/27th June) when there's a Marquee and a live band. This 'weekender' is divided between Knutsford Schools Ball on 26th and TCC's own annual Summer Ball on 27th. During such previous events my house can only be described as 'rocking', literally!

As one of the three closest residential buildings to the TCC (see plan) I have lived as a good neighbour for the three years of my occupancy of this address and have come to live with the events as held under the current licence system after all TCC were here before me and I understand their need to generate income with which to run an effective cricket club.

However my understanding is that under the full Premises Licence that the number of events may no longer limited to the current maximum 12 per year the TEN system permits. Therefore this change of licence has the potential to increase the nuisance to myself and family members.

These sources of nuisance are:

Noise

The TCC Pavilion premises are approximately 45 meters from my house (nearest two rooms occupied by 5 and 11 year old children).

During the summer we have to make a choice during noisy evening events featuring music. Not sleep because it's too hot with the windows closed, or open the windows, be cool and not sleep until late because of noise from music and party revellers.

The licence application applied for includes music (both live and recorded). The pavilion is a wooden structure, it's not soundproof, marquees when used less so. Even when music is not involved with the advent of having to smoke outdoors people go for a wander whilst having a cigarette and being a social pastime most smokers talk, again loudly.

As the new licence will allow easier access to members of the public there is then potential to increase total footfall. These people have to go home, either by car and hence slamming doors and revving engines or by foot. The main route back to town is past the end of my garden. Again we have all of the shouting and kafuffle that goes with Partygoers on the way home who are not always the most considerate of people.

Litter

TCC is on the very edge of town so a major number of attendees walk back past my garden towards Knutsford. Over the years I've amassed an impressive collection of discarded Alcohol containers. Due to the geographic location of my house I struggle to think where these come from. I can't really say they'd all be from those coming out of town because after TCC there's precious little residential property. I don't think there are many places that a reasonable percentage of this material can have come from other than departing open event guests. Any increase in event numbers will potentially increase this nuisance

Damage

In three years I've had to play 'chase the fence panel' where some wit departing a party thinks its cool to take out a fence panel and move it down the road. Wears a bit thin after a while. More events, potentially more people who think they are funny.

Finally I must say that today I received a letter from TCC hand delivered by their Chairman (John Reed) forewarning us of the next big weekend event which I must say was greatly appreciated and he apologised in advance for any potential disruption.

In discussion about the event John said that the live music in the marquee had been limited by the council to a finish time of 11:30 pm after which events would continue in the pavilion. I can only assume this is something limited within the TEN application. As the new premises licence covers live music until 1:00 am how will any future events be limited to minimise noise intrusion under cover of a Premises Licence if granted?

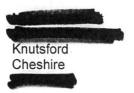
In summary

I have no objection to TCC as it operates under its current Club Premises Certificate and do consider them a neighbour to be extremely proud of, but do object to the change of its licensing to a **Premises Licence** on the grounds of increased nuisance in what is a residential area by potentially opening up the premises to none members above and beyond the current limitations of the TEN system necessary with their current licence.

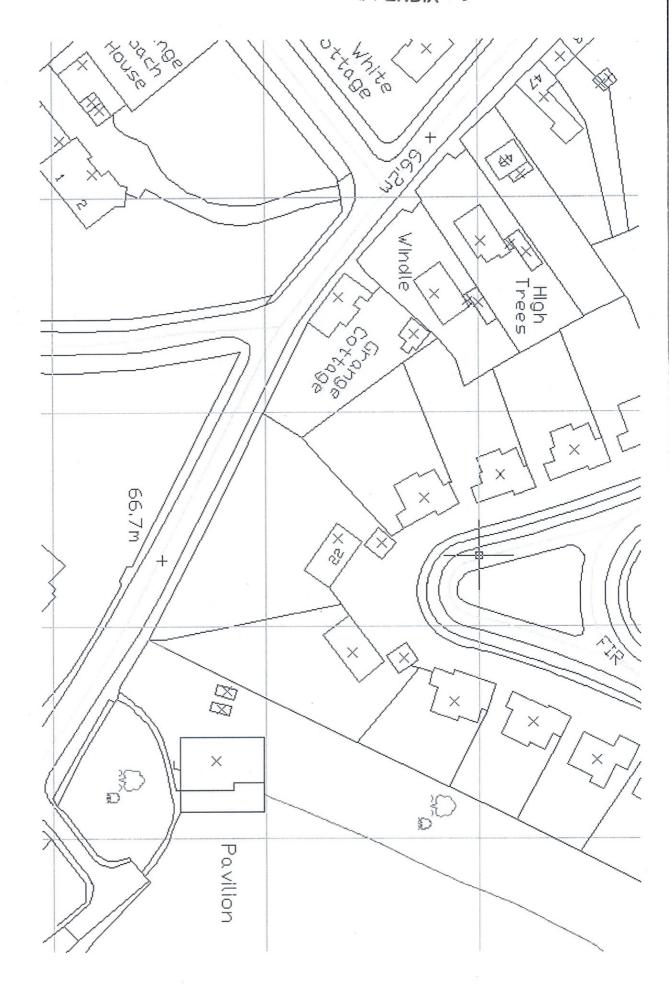
Under the present system they are a cricket club who has the potential to have up to 12 events beyond their core business (a site on which to play cricket). Once they have a full premises licence there is nothing stopping them becoming a bar/entertainments centre that has the provision to play cricket. Is that something suitable for a residential area?

In case you think my fears of 'event growth' are unfounded if you would like to check TCC's own website www.toftcc.co.uk they actively invite 'club for hire'. Follow the hyperlink and see what is on offer. Is this advert itself not an indication that the club would like to utilise their facility more for none cricket related events? Sounds more and more like the last sentence of the above paragraph could be true.

I would request that the Licensing Department reject the application by TCC for a full premises licence and allow them to continue operation under the limitations of their Club Premises Certificate.



Attached OS plan of TCC relative to Fir Tree Ave



SITE LOCATION PLAN

(SCALE 1:1250)

Cadman, Nikki

From:

Koch, Uwe

Sent:

16 June 2009 18:40

To:

licensing CE; Cadman, Nikki

Cc:

Subject: Toft cricket club - Application for a Premises License - Response to Letter Ref: 013127

Dear Mr Hopper, Dear Mrs Cadman,

With reference to your letter (ref 013127) dated 05/06/09 Toft cricket club wish to respond as follows:

Toft cricket club has one main fund raising event every year - the Summer Ball. At this key event members from the club, its sponsors and various people from the community are invited to share in a great evening with the purpose of thanking them for their support and generosity to make the club such a success as well as contributing to the ongoing viability of the club.

We have also run this event in conjunction with the local school who use the marquee on the Friday night to raise much needed funds for the 4 local Primary Schools. This will be the 10th consecutive year we have jointly run the event and to our knowledge we have only ever had 2-3 complaints from local residents.

Over the past years both Toft cricket club and the schools have always employed a band that played until midnight according to the specification of the Temporary Event Notice. In following this custom a band has again been committed and we wish to run the event in a similar style to past years.

By agreeing to the conditions as set out in your letter (i.e. no live music after 23h00 and only recorded music up to 24h00) our patrons on the night would no doubt feel "short changed" and disappointed and this would probably cause a reduced uptake for tickets in following years, obviously leading to a reduced future income of such a fund raising exercise.

Considering the potential implications as set out above, the Toft committee have consequently decided that:

- Toft representatives will seek an opportunity to discuss the recommendations as set out by the Environments Health Officer, Mr Beeby in an attempt to find a suitable compromise that will satisfy all parties concerned.
- Toft have applied for and been granted a Temporary Event License for our Summer Ball on Sat 27 June 2009 and operate to the details set out within that note (i.e. to play live music until midnight).
- Toft representatives, as in previous years, have already initiated individual visits and notices to the surrounding community in an effort to proactively inform these home owners of the Summer Ball, thereby addressing any potential concerns or apprehensions about staging the event.

Please may we request you not to see this note as an outright rejection to your recommendations, but rather a proposal to find a mutually acceptable solution to the outlined predicament. We wish to work with you and the community to protect the interest of all concerned.

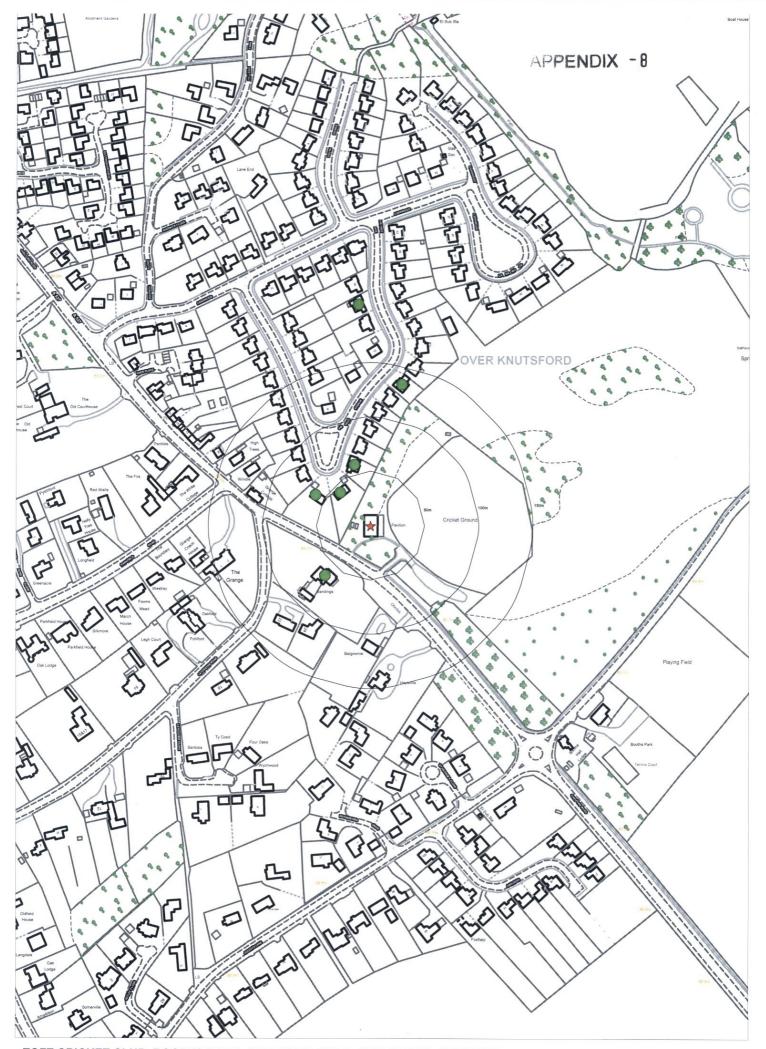
We would welcome and appreciate your help in setting up such a joint meeting with the respective parties.

Kind regards

APPENDIX -7

Uwe Koch

Toft Secretary



TOFT CRICKET CLUB, BOOTHS PARK, CHELFORD ROAD, KNUTSFORD, CHESHIRE

