

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 May 2021 11:44
To: LICENSING (Cheshire East)
Subject: Wilmslow Rugby Club Premises Licence Application

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[REDACTED]

18 May 2021

To whom it may concern,

Wilmslow Rugby Club Premises Licence Application

As a resident of [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] years, I write to express my concerns about Wilmslow Rugby Club's application for a premises licence.

As it stands, I object to the premises licence application in its entirety.

The club presently operates under a Club Premises Certificate, allowing on-site only alcohol sales to members and their guests. The Rugby Club is well supported by local residents as a sports club for the local community. It can currently hold events for up to 500 people, restricted to the club house and patio area, and although these can be disruptive, most residents are willing to tolerate the noise and occasional anti-social behaviour of attendees.

The Premises Licence application seeks to allow sales of alcohol and the provision of regulated entertainment **outdoors across the whole site, to the general public, for consumption on-site and to takeaway.** In addition, the application seeks permission for 3 large outdoor events per year for up to 5,000 people. This would be in addition to an unlimited number of events for up to 500.

The proposed premises licence would allow the club to operate in a way that would have a negative impact on local residents' entitlement to peaceful enjoyment of their property and I consider that the measures put forward in the application to promote the licensing objectives are inadequate.

Vehicular access to the club is only possible along Kings Rd, a quiet residential road with a 20mph speed limit and a 7.5T limit, except for access. The road is effectively a cul-de-sac as it joins a private unpaved section of Carrwood Road, which is unsuitable for heavy traffic. In recent years, the club has allowed heavy film crew lorries, including pantechnicons to park overnight at the club car park. The noise and vibration caused by these lorries has woken us up late at night and early morning and has clearly contributed to the poor state of the road surface. The club has also, in recent years, leased part of its site to a gym and we have seen a marked increase in the speed and volume of traffic as a direct result of this. Again most residents have been willing to tolerate the occasional disturbance and inconvenience, because they wish to support the club.

Under the proposed premises licence, the outdoor events would need similar large lorries to deliver/collect marquees, lighting and sounds systems, stages, scaffolding, food and drink. There would also inevitably be extra traffic from people attending the events. All would have to pass along Kings Road. After the events, typically late at night, there will be hundreds (and on 3 occasions thousands) of people, many under the influence of alcohol, leaving the site mainly via Kings Rd.

I consider that the proposed premises licence would undermine the licensing objectives in many ways, including:

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The fact that events could be held outdoors poses a risk of damage to houses and gardens adjoining the site, whilst the move from members-only to public admission increases the risk of litter and damage to cars, houses and gardens in Pownall Park generally.

There is also a significant risk of anti-social and disruptive behaviour fuelled by alcohol as people leave events late at night

Public Safety

The increase in traffic on Kings Road carries an increased risk of accidents (possibly involving large lorries).

There will also be a significant increase in air pollution from the extra traffic.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

The regular outdoor events and 3 large outdoor events would cause an increase in noise for local families, which would be particularly intolerable late at night.

High intensity outdoor lighting would presumably be needed, causing light pollution and nuisance for local residents.

There will be a significant increase in traffic congestion and parking issues on a quiet residential cul de sac.

Protection of Children from Harm

There are many quiet roads on Pownall Park where it has been customary for children to be allowed to play safely outdoors. The influx of people from outside the area and the increase in traffic during the day poses a particular risk to the safety of children living in the area generally.

I am also concerned that “the performance of dance” is specifically sought in the new licence, with no assurances that the type of dance performed would be appropriate for a family residential area and specifically for a sports club attended by children.

In summary, I consider that the Premises Licence application has the ability to change the operation of the Club in such a way that it will have a detrimental effect on the area and will undermine the licensing objectives.

As previously stated, I **object to the premises licence application in its entirety**.

Please will you kindly acknowledge receipt of this email.

Yours faithfully,

