


Licensing Section
Cheshire East Council
Municipal Buildings
Earle Street, Crewe, CW1 2BJ

24th May 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Wilmslow Rugby Club, Kings Road, Wilmslow - Licence Application – May 2021

I wish to object to the Wilmslow Rugby Club Premises Licence application in its entirety.

We have lived on Pownall Park for nearly  many of those years we have supported the Rugby Club by membership and attending previous events. Annually there are a number of events held or promoted through the Rugby Club; New Year's Eve Caravan Club weekend camps, Rugby festivals, Wilmslow Half Marathon and in recent years the Rugby Club car park being used as a site for location film crews. The latter I consider already a nuisance as 38 tonne trucks/vehicles with trailers, equipment and catering facilities arrive or leave in the early hours of the morning, they are noisy and although I appreciate 'time is money' there hasn't been a consideration for disruption to the Rugby Club's neighbours. These events and experiences have therefore allowed us to consider the application and how it might affect our family and the environment, safety, the affect on Pownall Park and the potential for increased crime on this private residential estate.

Briefly, our objections cover a number of areas and where possible I have tried to filter them into the different elements assessed during the application:

1. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

It does concern us that there is a risk of damage to our property and neighbouring properties with the expected 'greatly increased' number of visitors to the Rugby Club during these new events. We already have experience of smaller events being run and when its 'closing time' groups of people crowding around the road and some sadly being opportunistic and entering gardens and damaging cars etc is a high risk and has caused a problem for us in the past. Pownall Park has many houses with open drives and spaces, many adopting the 'suggested develop scheme' of the area to keep it open and green in appearance. I feel there would be an increased risk of damage to cars, houses and property as well as the increase in litter generally; bottles, cans etc. As an example the Wilmslow Half Marathon which has attracted on average up to 3500 runners, their supporters and the many volunteers is a slick operation but it does cause complete disruption to the road; especially with many people not familiar to the area, parking wherever, huge amounts of litter, people urinating in a public environment (when there hasn't been the consumption of alcohol) and we have the support of the local council including many volunteers that help clear up after the event but also there are volunteers that help 'police' the area and the event.

We also feel concerned that potentially with the high number of visitors late afternoon, late at night, many of which could be under the influence of alcohol or other substances it could be very intimidating and cause anti-social and disruptive behaviour. As one of the many dog walkers on Pownall Park we feel that we could feel concerned about our safety especially at night on this dimly lit road.

2. Prevention of Public Nuisance

We feel that the introduction of the 'larger events' will cause untold disruption and be a nuisance to the residential area. We will encounter noise disruption not only late at night when the visitors are leaving the site but potentially on arrival and up to 48 hours prior to the event as there will be much increased vehicular access of trucks and lorries delivering, setting up on the site. There will be increased noise levels during the event; music, fireworks, people as well as increased light pollution. These will not only affect us as residents but also I believe it will have a detrimental effect on the local wildlife, nesting or living along the edge of the site; birds, mammals and the bats.

I believe there is a risk of introducing parking issues as many visitors to the events will not want to utilise the suggested Park and Ride site.

3. Risk to Public Safety

Kings Road is already in need of repair, there are a number of significant holes and damaged worn tarmac (see Fig 1 below) from the current flow of traffic; this will be greatly affected by increased vehicle access especially heavy vehicles to the site and potentially is a greater risk for the many cyclists and walkers in the area. I think there could be an increased risk of accidents as there will be much more activity on Kings Road.



Fig 1 – Kings Road

Again, visitors will no doubt try to park as near as possible to the event which from experience of previous events will cause access issues to homeowners trying to access their drive or more worryingly parking both sides of the road causing obstructions and restrictions to getting emergency vehicle access to an emergency.

Therefore for the above reasons we feel that the provision of a new Premises Licence is not appropriate for a site within this well established quiet residential area.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]