



# Wilmslow Civic Trust

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An open letter to  
Cheshire East Council, Licensing  
Municipal Buildings.  
Earle Street  
Crewe  
CW1 2BJ

May 24, 2021

Application for Premises Licence (*The Application*) for:  
Wilmslow Rugby Club (WRC), Memorial Ground, Kings Road, Wilmslow SK9 5PZ

This submission is to Cheshire East Council as the Licensing Authority in respect of the above to permit the sale of alcohol and provision of regulated entertainment between 11:00 and 23:00 Monday and Wednesday; 11:00 and 00:00 Tuesday and Thursday; 11:00 and 01:00 Friday and Saturday; and 12:00 and 22:30 Sunday, all plus 30 minutes dispersal.

Wilmslow Civic Trust (WCT) has received many communications from members and other residents expressing concerns about and objections to the application.

The ECT acknowledges that The Wilmslow Three Parks Guide, incorporated in the Wilmslow Neighbourhood Plan (WNP), any Conservation Zone status and even Quiet Zone status are all planning considerations, they fall outside of the Licensing Act 2003. However, because of the potential detrimental impact of the licence for which application is made on the ambience, security and even potential property values in Pownall Park, circumstances are so exceptional that the licensing hearing should give consideration to objections based on the planning guides and WNP policies

*The application* leaves much to interpretation; there is a big difference between an event with 500 people and one with 5,000 people and *the application* form does not distinguish between the two. In reality, each event, such as concerts, beer festivals and large parties, could be attended by several thousand people. The licensing hearing should view this application being utilised at its extreme as this is the potential for the size of the location.

The concerns, which cannot be over stated and which we consider will be shared by those who will have to police events at WRC and intervene in the event of disturbance or accident, are:-

- The potentially heavy weight traffic on residential roads during setting up and taking down of marquees and other structures for major events the Rugby Club
- The level of traffic generated by those attending major events at WRC both within Pownall Park and roads accessing the Park
- High levels of on road parking during major events resulting in disturbance and inconvenience to residents particularly at time of arrival and dispersal
- The potential for accidents both on the WRC land and due to increased road traffic.
- The potential for noise and public disturbance.
- The proximity to the River Bollin with easy access to the river bank and The Carrs could make policing any disturbance particularly difficult
- Excessive permitted hours
- There would be costs to the community, both social (anti-social behaviour) and financial (extra policing, erosion of road surfaces etc).

It is for these reasons that we wish to **register our objection to the premises licence as applied for in its entirety.**

It would be an expensive mistake to grant the licence only to find that the fears of residents are well founded; that noise and disturbance and policing costs are such that the licence has to be revoked. It would be far better not to grant it.

