



18 November 2022

Dear Sir or Madam

Re: Application for Premises Licence – Dubbed Out, Royal Cheshire Showground, Flittogate Lane, Tabley

This Council considered the above Licence application at its meeting on 1st November 2022 and has the following comments.

The local community has significant experience of large events being held at the Cheshire Showground. The Cheshire Show itself generates noise and disturbance to local residents arising from traffic generation, the generation of on-site noise from music, PA systems etc. However that event is generally well controlled by event staff and the police and local authority personnel are also involved in its management. Importantly, that event only operates at reasonable hours of the day. However other events held at the Showground in recent years have generated noise and nuisance to the detriment of the reasonable living environment of local residents.

In particular three events have caused problems –

- Truckfest,
- a religious event organised by a pastor from the Traveller community, which attracted many hundreds of people, and also
- an event for bikers.

Each of these extensive events caused problems on-site (through noise disturbance) and off-site – through excessive traffic on local narrow country lanes, the coming and going of event participants, and there have also been some problems of offence, vandalism and in some cases violence outside the site.

In these cases, there seemed to be a marked lack of acceptance of responsibility on the part of the Showground management for incidents that happened off-site but emanating from event participants, and also certainly in the case of the travellers event, a marked lack of consultation by the event organisers and the Showground management with the Police and with Cheshire East Council.

The Parish Council therefore has a concern that the proposed event subject of the current licence application should not have similar impacts.

The licence applicants indicate that they have some experience in organising and managing such an event. However, the Parish Council is concerned to be assured that they have sufficient such expertise and experience to organise and manage such a large potential event without causing considerable nuisance and severe problems in the local community.

Effect on local amenity

The local community fears that an event with such large numbers of people and the hours of operation proposed will inevitably give rise to noise nuisance to residents in the area at unsocial hours, whatever controls are hypothesised in the licence application. The Cheshire Show itself does not cause issues at such times. In addition it is feared that in particular at the beginning and at the end of the event there will be considerable traffic movements on the local network of country lanes through Pickmere, Tabley and Wincham so as to cause significant hazards and noise nuisance to other users of these lanes (which largely have no pavements) e.g. walkers, horse-riders and cyclists.

Public Safety

The comments made above make reference to elements of public safety, in terms of the generation of substantial amounts of vehicular traffic on local narrow country lanes which are well used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders. The Cheshire Show generates very large volumes of traffic but this is generally well managed through the efforts of the Showground, Cheshire East Council and local police. There is no guarantee that an equivalent police resource will be invested in managing this event.

Prevention of crime and disorder

Again at the least there needs to be significant police involvement in the management of the event, without which no licence should be granted.

CONCLUSIONS

The Parish Council and local residents are concerned that the proposed event will give rise to many of the problems mentioned. The applicants indicate that 4000-5000 persons will be attracted, though this may well simply be a guess on their part. However even were this proposed event not to be of that scale, they fear that any substantial event held on the extensive Showground site, and involving the hours of operation proposed, and e.g. the broadcast of music etc during the hours requested, will have a deleterious impact on the reasonable living conditions of members of the local Pickmere community. The Parish Council is concerned that the management arrangements described in the licence application might not be adhered to in practice.

I trust that these comments will be taken into account.

Yours faithfully

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