



From: [Redacted]
Sent: 30 July 2020 12:27
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Re: Club Premises Licence Variation - Whittlesford Social Club

Hi [Redacted],

Having reviewed as a committee and discussed the items listed, please see response to mentioned:

Environmental Health - We accept the conditions, however must note:

1. Some lighting is present for safety purposes / other lighting will be pointing downwards. Non-essential lighting we're having removed
2. Smoking shelter, is limited on location. We've had to move already due to proximity - But will review

Responses

1

Reference to late leaving of the premises, 2am. This not occurring. This may be reference to reports pre 2012 accusations against the club. We have agreed specific extension beyond midnight for xmas eve only. General condition for new years eve. Unless referencing one of these times, patrons are vacated from the premises long before 2am. However, we aren't present to notice any use of our seating/ outside area at all times. Potential these people referenced are not permitted on the property.

Continued swearing comment. We remind members to not use non offensive language. If necessary, in writing. We also again believe this references a specific accusation pre 2012.

2

Outside alcoholic drink consumption. Our members are fully aware of the fact that there is no outside drinking. We have notices displayed inside to that effect. We do on occasion request TENs license. It's possible that this reference aligns. Or, it may have been a visitor who was unaware. Staff and committee do inform patrons as well as fellow members. We have visiting, snooker/ pool players etc. Who are honorary members. Also possible the drinks referenced are non-alcoholic.

Parking in the High street - This is an issue that we are aware of. We don't however feel it will become more problematic with our variation request. Existing off-road, premise parking to remain. Yellow lines have been recently painted. We do remind any disabled badge holders, parking on yellow lines near a junction is NOT permitted. Also formally encourage members, including discussions in AGMs. Those who are more able bodied to park further away from the premises, to do so. However, must state that patrons aren't always at fault for obstruction. Due to when/ where other non-associated vehicles park. We do have members move vehicles where blocking pavements or not parked appropriately. This active monitoring can be increased if necessary when known popular events are due to take place. Also, to note, that drivers

themselves are ultimately responsible for their vehicle. We can't remediate where the vehicle is not of association.

3

Parking, as referenced for response to person 2.

Area requested for variation. To be fenced and gated as detailed by environmental health. Is at least 1.5 car lengths from the public pavement. I'd suspect the recent covid relaxation for some premises. To seat guests in locations normally for car parking is a believed stance here. To which it will remain for car parking. I must also state that the premises in the modern day, are never busy enough to force this overflow onto the road feared. Our membership base is now a majority aged over 65 years! We've not had reports/ complaints of this overspill of when TENs has permitted outside alcoholic drinking.

4

Finances - The social club has been operating in general at a loss in recent years, only by way of banked funds, has enabled continued existence and ability to employ staff. The last two published financial years, have however shown improvement. Last years, trading profit is not a normal outcome. This has been achieved in part by the committee. However, a number of remediation and desired improvements have been delayed, enabled only by financial confidence. Villagers should be aware that all assets are retained by the Social Club and therefore the village/ members. A sustainable financial position has been of concern for members for many years. All present committees, sustainability is always a top priority. Retaining the social facility for community use. Which even with the welcomed covid support packages. A disappointing set of financial results is expected, if not in balance. Certainly, in turnover and trend. With or without incorporating lockdown the period for this second half of our financial year. The outside variation would at present be preferred for health reasons by many members, especially when many are elderly. Longer term; sustainability and relevance for the community.

5

Time to be limited to 21:00 as per environmental health. Not the requested 22:00.

We'd if necessarily on review. Look towards aligning, temp basis with the pandemic. However, still feel that our members who do consist in a large proportion of village residents. Committee to pursue a variation on the basis of maintaining cohesion with local residents. Have the ability to sit outside and socialise with an alcoholic drink within the boundaries of environmental health.

6

Referenced: This is a statement of our current restrictions

Noise - The social club operates music entertainment. However, not at present due to social distancing. Not wanting to encourage large footfall at a single given time. Windows and doors are closed. I must mention that you normally have to be within close distance. Estimated: 100 yards to note any noise outside omitted from the social club. On such evenings I always walk to the premises. West > East, often think our booked entertainers have not turned up (Low level of noise). Always take note of what noise I observe. In reverse I often think I've forgotten scheduled events as it would appear noise may be originating from the social club. To then realise it's not. It is either local private events/ other licensed

premises or illegal raves miles away (The latter has occurred in the Little Shelford/ Harston are to two occasions I recall). I suspect this specific area (North Road). Of which as mentioned in statement the other licensed premises reside between. Noise is either, not originating from the social club or is not sufficient for disturbance. It must also be mentioned, with exclusion of two festive evenings, Music from the social club has ended and patrons have departed the social club long before the 1am accused of the other licensed premises. This will be retained regardless of this variation.

7

This reference we feel is very relevant. One of our closest neighbours, acknowledging the existence of the social club. Seemingly void of any historic events. Better represents in our opinion. The actual current situation. Of course, being realistic with the feedback provided. We'd expect at the least clause of probation on any amendment.

8

Threatening presence - We don't permit known threatening or dangerous individuals to become members. Any actions by an existing member carried out to an effect are acted upon at the time by our staff. If needed by way of a formal letter from the committee. Or revoking of membership, for a period or permanent basis. The social club shouldn't be compared with a busy city centre pub, where for example elderly visitors and families would not feel comfortable.

The fence is to be erected. The separation and distance should be sufficient to ease these concerns.

9

Due to this residents location, have an element of sympathy. Direction in which smoke drifts can't be catered for. This act (smoking) can only be undertaken outside. We'd welcome progressive dialog of specific concerns with neighbours. We've not tried or thought to have need to recently engage more. Excessive noise or disturbance/ behavioural complaints have not been formally received from neighbours. By letter or via the parish or other authorities in recent times. We'll be following the requirement for increased signage and regular information for members, 21:00 requirement being an earlier time than the 22:00 stated.

Broken glass - Having seen this mentioned. Discussed with our staff. This is not something that has been noted on closing the premises of an evening. It was mentioned however that items, including bottles are often seemingly incorrectly deposited. These are often brands we do not stock. These normally found during the day/ before opening. Would suggest/ possible. Persons or maybe minors without association are leaving items. Littering! This is an area we'll monitor. Must mention that littering has been occurring on the village lawns, recently. Possible an unfortunate, more general issue for the village.

10

Our lease - Does require a co-existence with neighbours, to prevent undue nuisance and disturbance. However, doesn't include mentioned usage regarding sale items. This being the referenced. This is however is listed within our constitution. Which states that the local regulatory authorities govern/ control this area.

Distancing - The social club often only has a couple/ handful of visitors. Even at busy times for the social club. Ample space. Don't believe this is/ will be an issue.

11

Nothing additional for this specific reference

12

We believe the variation a workable option with control/ increased local dialog. Adjustments outlined by environmental health.

13

Elements of response covered above. We're not aware of any police interaction, certainly recently.

14

Areas covered

15

Constructive elements listed here, in line with EH

Outside music comment - Music events ONLY take place indoors. When windows and doors are closed. Local advertising on when one of the 12 permitted events per year. Take place.

16

Seating area to remain as is. Patio area marked on the 2005 plan to remain.

Fear of increased noise, this would have to be mitigated with control/ dialog. Again, to note that the social club is often only occupied by a few members. Many of whom are of a senior age.

17

Appears to support a temp relaxation. However, it must be noted that this does not apply to the social club. Therefore, at present, the majority of our patrons need to remain inside during the pandemic.

18

Serving to NOT be extended outside. Members will be asked and advised on conduct if requesting outside seating, plastic cups issues. Sales permitted at the bar inside only.

Operating hours will not change as a result of this. Last orders, 20 minute drink up period. Closing of the premises at defined/ licensed times to continue as they do at present.

Would like to have some updated feedback from the police authority to represent this objection. Or if it was as suspected due to issues materialising at a previous time/ year. Not a fair representation of the current circumstance.

19

Areas covered, bar the membership details. We'll get this information available for request.

20

You may wish to respond or consider amending or withdrawing the application.

A hearing has been booked for the 14 August and confirmation of this will be sent to you in due course.

Kind regards



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