



RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO LICENSING APPLICATIONS

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY– Licensing

Name and Address of Applicant	Blackwood Town Cricket Club
Premises	Blackwood Town Cricket Club, Highfields, Gordon Road, Blackwood NP12 1DS

Your Name	Sandra Lewis-Williams
Job Title	Assistant Licensing Manager
e.mail Address	Lewiss1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Contact Telephone Number	01443 866750
Date	

Which of the four Licensing Objectives does your representation relate to?	
The Prevention of Crime and Disorder	x
Public Safety	x
The Prevention of Public Nuisance	x
The Protection of Children from Harm	

Please outline the reasons for your Representations
<p>The club has submitted an application to vary their existing club premises certificate to “increase the area where alcohol can be consumed on the premises to the extents of the boundary of the Club grounds. To add a small stage area into the building plan of the upstairs main concert room. To remove the requirement to attend pubwatch and remove any embedded conditions and other conditions on Annex 2 which are no longer applicable”.</p> <p>The variation application submitted by the club appears to have stemmed from a visit to the premises by the Licensing Manager following a complaint from a resident in July 2023 that alleged that that club patrons were using foul language and litter was being thrown in to the complainant’s garden. During the visit it was identified that the club were using a greater area for the consumption of alcohol than was included on the plan attached to the existing club premises certificate as they were using picnic tables and benches located outside the permitted area. A small raised ‘stage’ area had also been created in the upstairs function room which was also not shown on the club premises plan. The Licensing Act requires that all fixed structures such as stages must be identified on the plan attached to the club premises certificate. A review of conditions attached to the licence also identified that the Club were conditioned to be members of the Local Pub-Watch scheme, which they did not appear to be participating in.</p>

Following the submission of the application, a visit was undertaken to the club on 28th February 2024 with Gwent Police Licensing and Environmental Health (Pollution Control). We met with 3 committee members to discuss the application and their intentions. The committee members present advised that they currently had 150 members with 40 members who regularly use the club. They stated they also hold functions for members and their guests. They stated that they were not aware that they could not use the areas not shown on their plan for consumption of alcohol and stated that they had stopped this as soon as they were advised. They said that the outside picnic tables which were located in the carpark area overlooking the cricket green were generally only used during the cricket season (starting end of April beginning of May). They said they had added the raised stage area in the corner of the upstairs function area around 15 years ago and were again unaware of the implications of this on the club premises certificate. They said that they were open in the evening 5 nights a week and employed a stewardess who had been at the club for 25 years, another lady was also employed in the bar who had also been at the club for 20 years. They stated that they do not allow glass outside and all drinks for outside were decanted in to plastic glasses.

The police discussed the benefit of the addition of CCTV and the club advised they had already had a quote for the installation of 8 CCTV camera's.

During the application period representations have been received from Gwent Police Licensing, Environmental Health Pollution Control, Health and Safety and residents living local to the club.

Environmental Health Pollution Control in their representations have objected to this application in its current form and have advocated that the licensable area be reduced to the carpark area only. Having had regard to the representations from residents in relation to their prior dealings with the club and having visited the site and considered how the club would manage the extent of the area proposed, I would also object to the application in its current form and would support the comments of the Environmental Health Pollution Control Officer. I believe that by reducing the outside area would allow the club management committee better control of patrons using all licenced areas and reduce the possible nuisance to local residents from licensable activities, given that there is no proposed change to the licensable hours. I have read the comments of Mr Andrew Tiley in response to Environmental Health Pollution Control representations and do not agree that this would limit the club's ability to host events like charitable days as these could be covered off by Temporary Event Notices. Such activities would suggest that the club would be open to non-members and therefore a separate permission i.e a Temporary Event Notice would be required. The current club premises certificate only provides the ability to provide alcohol to members and guests it does not permit the club to open more widely and advertise it self for room hire and wider use. Further more I would propose the following condition to be applied to any new outside area namely its use should be restricted between 1st April and 30th September only, this is on the basis that Mr Tiley has indicated in his response to residents comments that the committee members only have a rota for collection of waste on Sunday mornings during the cricket season only.

I would also support the conditions put forward by Environmental Health in the event the application is granted.

N.B. If you make a representation you will be expected to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding.

Please remember if you intend to make representations to copy this file to all other RA's

I would also support the representations submitted by Gwent Police and Environmental Health Health & Safety.

The variation application needs to address the revised layout of the first floor i.e the small stage. I would have no further representations regarding the addition of the stage area or the removal of the conditions as detailed in the application form.

What conditions could be added to the licence to remedy your representation that the Licensing Sub-Committee could take into account	A condition which restricts the use of any new outside area between the following dates namely 1 st April and 30 th September in any calendar year
Are you prepared to discuss these representations with the applicant by way of mediation?	Yes

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