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17 MAY 2024

Golf Club Drive Lon Pennant Cwmgelli Blackwood NP12 1BR

The Licensing Section
Caerphilly County Borough Council
Penallta House
Tredomen Park
Ystrad Mynach
Hengoed
CF82 7PG

13 May 2024

Dear Sir / Madam,

BLACKWOOD GOLF CLUB - APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE

I wish to make a representation regarding the above application. I live on Golf Club Drive, the road leading up to the golf club,

Cwmgelli is a residential area and its residents enjoy a quiet coexistence with the golf club. This is because the club operates on a membership basis and the number of late night functions and events with loud music is low, approximately 1-2 per month during the summer months; less in winter.

Despite this, on occasion I have witnessed antisocial behaviour in the form of public urination, loud arguments with threats of violence and actual violence. Following a function, Golf Club Drive is also often littered with cigarette, vape and alcohol waste.

I should also point out that the double rear doors of the club are often fully opened during events, especially during the summer. The stage on which music is played or performed is in front of these doors so when they are open it has the effect of increasing the noise level considerably.

To date, I have not reported these issues to the club or licensing authority because of the relatively infrequent nature of functions and events. However, I wish to place on record my concern that a change to licensing arrangements will result in an increase in the number of events and a deterioration in our quiet coexistence with the club as neighbours. Having said that, I do appreciate the club's need to earn revenue from the functions and I wish to maintain good relations with it and its members.

The council should therefore consider restricting the number of late night music events permitted over the course of a year and a prohibition on opening of the rear doors while music is being performed or played. Notices to prevent patrons taking alcohol containers off premises and to be respectful of neighbours when leaving the club would also be beneficial. This would, in my view, balance the needs of both the club and residents.

Provided these measures are put in place then I would not object to the application. However, should the application be approved I will report to the club and licensing authority if the change in licensing arrangements results in an increase in antisocial behaviour, noise or litter.

I respectfully request that the council considers the content of this letter when making its licensing decision.

Yours sincerely

Copied by email:

Councillor Nigel Dix, nigeldix@caerphilly.gov.uk
Councillor Kevin Etheridge, kevinetheridge@caerphilly.gov.uk
Councillor Andrew Farina-Childs, andrewfarinachilds@caerphilly.gov.uk

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21 May 2024

Dear Sir / Madam,

BLACKWOOD GOLF CLUB - APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE

I write following my previous letter dated 13 May. since writing that letter, new information has come to light from Councillor Dix and I now object outright to the application.

Cwmgelli is a very quiet residential area. Access to the golf club can only be achieved via Lon Pennant. Anyone attending the golf club must therefore exit this way, passing residents' houses. The club house and car park also directly adjoin a number of residential dwellings on Golf Club Drive and The Paddocks.

The club's current use as a members club with a small number of functions during the course of the year is in fitting with the club's residential location. A change of use to a premises licence with extended opening hours and music is wholly unsuitable and, in my view, unnecessary.

As Councillor Dix has pointed out to me by email, if the changes go ahead then the club will not know who is drinking on the premises. Further, the application allows music to be played all day until late at night and allows individuals to leave the club well past midnight having consumed alcohol throughout the day / evening. Neither of these are appropriate for an alcohol and music licence in a quiet residential area like Cwmgelli.

I therefore object to the application and respectfully ask the Licensing Authority to consider this letter, and the quiet enjoyment of myself and other residents of Cwmgelli, in making its decision.

Yours sincerely,

Sent by first class post on date of letter and copied by email to:

Councillor Nigel Dix, nigeldix@caerphilly.gov.uk
Licensing Officer Lee Morgan, MORGAL16@caerphilly.gov.uk