



Miss Haf Smith

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14th of December 2016

For the attention of Head of Licensing at Flintshire County Council,

I write with reference to the application for extension of premise licence of Mold Alex FC. I wish to formally register my objection to this application this is because of the ongoing problems I suffer as a result of patrons of Mold Alex and the youths that frequent the car park at night. These issues have been ongoing since I bought my property and despite placement of CCTV on the exterior of the Clubhouse I am frequented with litter being thrown into my garden, threatening antisocial behaviour, damage to my fence and the Police have been called many times to deal with various incidents. My objections are as follows:

Crime and Disorder – Currently I face incidences of crime and disorder on a regular basis, with North Wales Police being called and in attendance on many occasions due to reports of the following: drug use/ distribution from Mold Alex Car Park, damage to my property and boundaries, antisocial behaviour late at night, including offensive language, intimidating/ threatening behaviour, loud music, shouting/ screaming, reckless driving, trespassing on private property, underage drinking and irresponsible drinking in public. One particular incident where a few young men were attempting to kick their way through my garden fence from Mold Alex boundaries left me feeling frightened and uneasy about where I live as they were highly aggressive and both physically and verbally violent. The current premises license has resulted in an increase in both people and vehicle traffic and general nuisance which I have to deal with. I am concerned that to extend the opening hours will mean the venue will hold more functions resulting in an increase of all of the current issues I'm plagued with. This is not acceptable.

Public Safety – I'm aware that the current license stipulates that all windows and doors must remain shut during live music events. Despite music volume causing massive disturbance irrelevant of whether it is recorded or live, I'm generally concerned that this won't be adhered too from a public safety element. This is because to my understanding the venue holds 150 people. With 150 in a porter cabin how do Mold Alex plan to control temperature? Surly with no windows or doors open as per licensing regulations there will be an issue of overheating. With reference to the risk of overheating, I'm also concerned that this stipulation of all windows and doors remaining closed will not be adhered too and patrons will open windows/doors of their own accord resulting in increased noise pollution. How do Flintshire County Council and Mold Alex plan on policing/ regulate this?

Public nuisance – The porter cabin is situated within a residential area, with many young families, elderly and those including my own household who work varying shift patterns. There has been little consideration made to the immediate community in the application to license such a premises from the beginning. Despite being given assurances from Flintshire County Council in the first application that the building offers equal installation as many of the pubs in the area, in reality this is simply not the case. The construction of the building offers little protection against noise even with the presence of insulation. The positioning of the sound system so it is pointing away from residents does not seem

to reduce the level of noise at all. Last night the 13th of December is a prime example of the level of disturbance the venue creates for residents. The level of noise was ridiculous, to the point I could clearly hear the lyrics within my house, it wasn't a distant background noise, it was unbearably loud. Environmental Health at Flintshire County Council has a log of my concerns and inform me that they intend to investigate. As previously mentioned, It's my understanding that the License has a limitation set, that all windows and doors must remain shut during live music events, but what about recorded music? A disco creates equally as much noise pollution and disturbance as a band. With window and doors freely open on these occasions means residents will be negatively impacted. The fact the designated smoking area is accessed off the dance floor means regular opening and closing of that door, resulting in regular intermittent increase in noise during events.

On leaving the premises there is significant concern that the points outlined in section one Crime and Disorder will increase in frequency. I am specifically concerned about the increase in traffic, antisocial behaviour, vandalism, offensive and intimidating language and behaviour, fighting and noise. To install signs requesting patrons to be quiet on exiting has little effect on minimising these issues. If you grant an extension of licensing hours to the Clubhouse it will increase the number of functions held as it will be licensed to serve alcohol later making it a more popular venue for parties. Dealing with that level of noise at 8.30pm is highly inappropriate and unacceptable never mind at midnight and beyond.

Currently the residents already have to make allowances for other events hosted on the grounds of Mold Alex FC, these include examples such as the fireworks display, circus, monster trucks, fun fair. The noise pollution, traffic violations, access issues, parking issues and an increase in foot traffic, created by such events are already problematic for the residents of the Soughton Park estate and surrounding area. Some residents feel they have to leave their property whilst such events are on due to the issues outlined above. Residents have had for many years difficulty in accessing their own driveways because of irresponsible parking by non residents who are in attendance of the events hosted. The noise pollution suffered during these events has a detrimental effect on individual's ability to sleep, specifically children. This alone is absolutely unacceptable. Currently such events are limited in frequency over a year however with this new license these are set to increase.

Since I've lived here I feel I have been subjected to complete disregard from members and visiting guests of Mold Alex FC on training and match days, with perpetual use of foul language prior, during and after games, as well as litter, cigarette butts and even chewing gum being thrown over my garden fence as members and guests leave the grounds. Such blatant disrespect is completely unacceptable, and based on current practices it is of grave concern to me that these examples will increase in frequency and severity.

The Prevention of children from harm –I do not have children however many of my neighbours do, and I also have family who also live within close proximity to the club. I'm concerned on their behalf that there will be harm done to children. Currently their sleep is being disturbed up until 11pm, with the proposal of the new license this is set to continue late into the night. The noise and offensive language that we suffer on a regular basis from the football pitch alone is enough to contend with, adding alcohol into the mix has only served to escalate this. Protecting young impressionable children from hearing highly offensive language and sometimes witnessing unacceptable behaviour such as fighting on the pitch is difficult at present; despite not being a mother yet I wouldn't wish any child to be exposed to any further harm. I'm aware from my neighbours that their children have been woken

on several occasions from noise pollution coming from the Clubhouse late at night and on training days. This has a long term damaging effect on them and their health.

In conclusion I feel it would be irresponsible to extend Mold Alex FC licensing hours. I have signed 2 previous petitions regarding this and feel its time Flintshire County Council took on board the views of the people who are being negatively affected by their decisions. I feel it was highly irresponsible to grant Mold Alex FC a licence at all, and I would have raised objections back in the summer when the second application was submitted but there was zero advertisement on the estate and therefore I wasn't aware of the application until it was too late.

I would like to be informed of any progress relating to this application and any future applications relating to Mold Alex FC, in writing please. Many thanks.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Haf Smith', written in a cursive style.

Haf Smith