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Contact Officer:
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To: Cllr Tony Sharps (Chairman)

Councillors: Alan Diskin and Ian Dunbar

3 January 2017

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee which will be held at 2.00 pm on Monday, 9th January, 2017 in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

Purpose: To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

3 APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE (Pages 3 - 28)

For Members to consider and determine an application to vary a premises licence

Yours sincerely

Robert Robins
Democratic Services Manager

- a)
- b)

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LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Monday 9 th January
Report Subject	Application to Vary a Premises Licence
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning and Environment)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For Members to consider and determine an application under the Licensing Act 2003 to vary a Premises Licence held by Mold Alex Football Club

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Members consider and determine the application to vary a Premises Licence by Mold Alex Football Club.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE APPLICATION
1.01	The premises concerned is the Mold Alex Clubhouse, Alyn Park, Denbigh Road, Mold, CH7 1BP. Its location can be seen in Appendix A.
1.02	The applicant is Mold Alex Football Club whose Chairman is Mr Wayne Emberton.
1.03	The application is to vary an existing Premises Licence which has been held by Mold Alex Football Club since August 2016.
1.04	The applicant has applied to vary the following licensable activities: Plays, Films, Indoor Sporting Events, Live and Recorded Music and anything of a similar description, late night refreshment and the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises.
1.05	For the above activities the Licence currently operates to the following hours: Monday to Thursdays 13:00 to 23:00 Friday and Saturday 11:00 to 23:00 Sunday 11:00 to 17:00
1.06	The hours applied for are as follows: Monday to Thursdays 09:00 to 23:00 Friday and Saturday 09:00 to 00:00 Sunday 09:00 to 21:00
1.07	Representations have been received from a number of local residents. These can be seen in Appendix B.
1.08	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service have confirmed in writing that they will not be making any representations to the Licensing Authority regarding the application.
1.09	North Wales Police have confirmed in writing that the application has been discussed with Inspector Jon Bowcott, the officer responsible for the area, and that they make no representations to this application.
1.10	Flintshire County Council's Pollution Control Section have not made representations.
1.11	The steps that the applicant intends to take to promote the four licensing objectives are set out in Appendix C
1.12	The application was advertised in the correct manner.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None in respect of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None required.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	All risks are addressed in the steps taken to promote the four licensing objectives shown in the Operating Schedule.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix A: Location plans Appendix B: Local resident representations Appendix C: Steps taken to promote the licensing objectives.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Licensing Act 2003 Section 182 Guidance for Licensing Authorities Flintshire County Council's Statement of Licensing Policy Contact Officer: James Lowe, Licensing Officer Telephone: 01352 703376 E-mail: james.lowe@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Licensing Act 2003 – referred to as the Act. Premises Licence – means a licence granted under the Act, in respect of any premises, which authorises the premises to be used for one or more licensable activities. Time limited – its duration is limited to a set date(s) and time(s). Licensable activities – these are the sale by retail of alcohol, the supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to, or on the order of, a member of the club, the provision of regulated entertainment, and the provision of late night refreshment.

Regulated entertainment - is defined as a performance of a play, an exhibition of a film, an indoor sporting event, a boxing or wrestling entertainment (both indoors and outdoors), a performance of live music, any playing of recorded music, or a performance of dance

Late night refreshment – a person provides late night refreshment if at any time between the hours of 11.00pm and 5.00am., he supplies hot food or hot drink to members of the public, or a section of the public, on or from any premises, whether for consumption on or off the premises.

Supply of alcohol – means the sale by retail of alcohol, or the supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to, or to the order of, a member of the club.

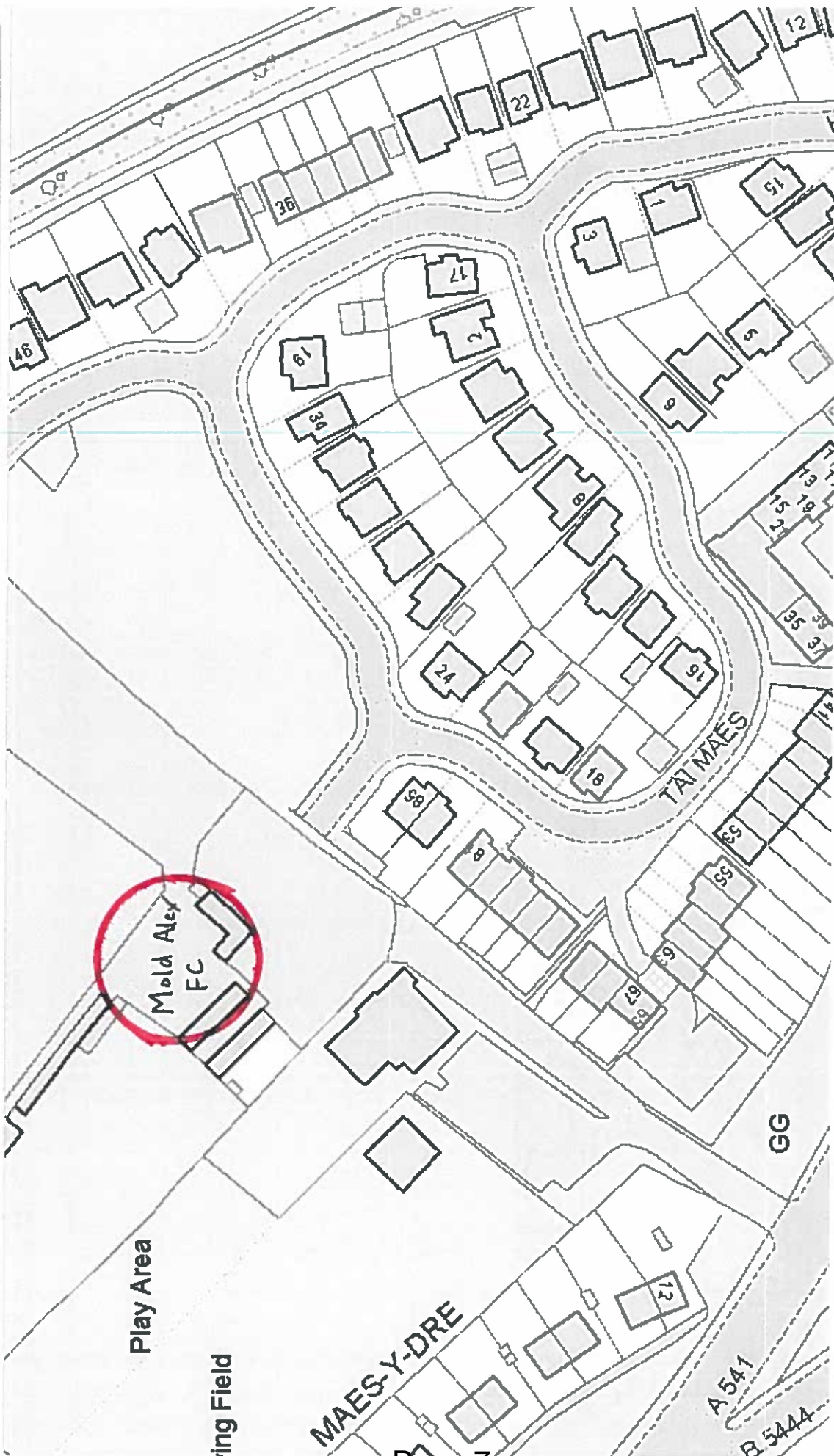
Licensing Objectives - the Act sets out four licensing objectives. These are the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance, and the protection of children from harm.

Views

Maps

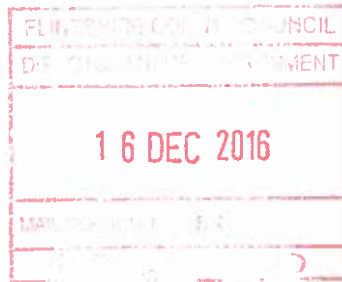
propertyaddresses

Tools



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Gemma Potter
Head of Licensing
Entrance 3
Flintshire County Council
County Hall
Mold
CH7 6NB



C.P. Williams
22 Tai Maes
Mold
Flintshire
CH7 1RW
Chriswilliams15@sky.com

Subject: Objection to Extension Of Alcohol & Entertainment Licence – Mold Alex FC

Dear Ms Potter,

I wish to raise my objection to the application of Premise Licence Extension for Mold Alex FC. Further I would like the previously submitted petitions and documentation regarding the previous applications for this licence to also be taken into consideration.

The club is located in close proximity to a residential area and the concerns raised previously regarding noise, antisocial behaviour, vandalism and general nuisance have now become an issue since the granting of the existing licence, to extend the licence this will bring an increase in usage of the venue and further late night disruptions and an increase in the frequency of noise, antisocial behaviour, vandalism and general nuisance. Please see below representations.

Public Nuisance – The building in use for the licence is in close proximity to residential area, with many families and residents with varying shift patterns. There has been little consideration made to the impact on the immediate community and residents in the application for the licence.

The buildings construction does not offer any protection from the noise, even with the presence of the insulation that has been fitted. For example, recent 'Band Practice' that takes place on Tuesday nights can still be heard in our house, even with doors and windows closed and over the top of the Television. Additionally the resonance of the bass is also uncomfortable and irritating. Further events and hosting will result in the same if not worse Impacts on our lives. To allow for the licence to be extended will allow for this to go on for a longer period and also make the venue more appealing and therefore an increase in the frequency of incidents. Whilst we understand that doors and windows have to remain closed during live music events, this has little effect as the designated smoking area is directly off the main function room and this will result in the door being regularly opened resulting further intermittent increases in noise. The restriction on doors and windows does not make reference to recorded music / disco in the licence and therefore the noise will become more problematic.

Antisocial Behaviour / Crime and Disorder – The car park / grounds / access roads to Mold Alex FC are a continued source of antisocial behaviour and crime with North Wales Police being called and attending on many occasions. Drug use and drug distribution from the car park is a regular issue and on going along with reckless driving, deliberate damage to boundary fences and gathering of 'teenager groups' within the grounds combined with their underage drinking and intimidating behaviour. More recently, I have called North Wales Police in relation to a group using air weapons / unknown firearm within the car park. With the premises now having a licence and further with its intention to extend this Licence, this will bring an increase in this Antisocial behaviour and disorder, even if the persons involved are not attending function / events at Mold Alex as they will be attracted to the area. On leaving the premises, there is significant concern that there will be a continued increase in the antisocial behaviour, vandalism fighting and noise. The installation of signs requesting Patrons to be quiet on leaving will have little effect on these issues.

Prevention of Children from Harm – Noise and offensive language that is endured on a regular basis from the Football pitch during Match days and training sessions is enough to contend with without creating more issues that would arise as a result of granting and extending the application for the sale of Alcohol and entertainment. The residential area is family orientated and a lot of young children live in the surrounding houses and play on the communal area adjacent to Mold Alex FC. These children are impressionable and it will be difficult to protect them from hearing the offensive language and occasionally the behaviour of supporters and they should not be exposed to any further harm. Amongst the Parents and families there is concern that the noise pollution from the building will affect the children's ability to sleep, and to expose children to long term effects due to disturbed sleep is unacceptable and will have a negative effect on their well being.

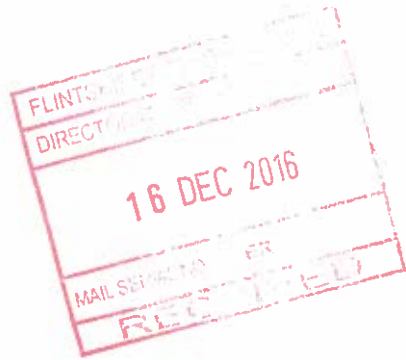
I did purchase this property from new building and accepted that we would live in proximity to Mold Alex and we did expect some disturbance during Match days and training, but it was not a licensed premises and I did not expect to be disturbed by the disregard of the club for installing a Function Room and sale of Alcohol and Entertainment.

In conclusion – I object to the application of the Licence Extension by Mold Alex FC and I look forward to any response you may have or wish to follow up on.

Yours Sincerely

Christopher Williams

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Christopher Williams', written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and overlaps the line.



Miss Haf Smith

83 Tai Maes

Mold

CH7 1RW

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

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Lewis Corbett

30 Tai Maes

Mold

CH7 1RW

10th Dec 2016

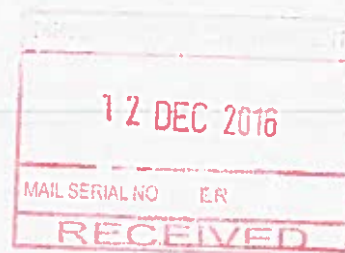
Head of Public Protection

Flintshire County Council

County Hall

Mold

CH7 6NF



Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am writing in objection to the application for an extension to the premises licence in relation to:

Mold Alex Football Club, Alun Park, Mold, Application number MT532970

I live approximately 50m from, and in direct line of sight, of the proposed licenced premises. I am raising my objections based on the principles of the prevention of public nuisance and the prevention of crime and disorder.

Alun Park is situated in a residential area, and is overlooked by a number of houses. In addition, a planning application has been submitted (Planning Ref 053356) to construct and additional 5 dwellings immediately adjacent to Alun Park.

Users of Alun Park must gain access via a small road which passes immediately to the rear of a number of houses. Those exiting Alun Park either on foot or by car in the late evening / early morning cause a nuisance to residents of these houses. Please see attached diagram.

Also, the playing of loud music causes nuisance to local residents and may disturb the sleep of a number of children. The premises are of a modular temporary construction (Portakabin type) and do not provide adequate protection from noise, even with windows kept closed we are still able to hear music, especially the base as it reverberates around the estate.

We already suffer significant disturbance from activities undertaken at Alun Park. During football matches we have to put up with screaming and shouting and swearing from the players and the fans. The swear words echo right across the estate and can be clearly heard by all the residents including children. We also have disturbance from a circus, monster truck stunt show, fair and bonfire / fireworks display. We do not object to these additional events as they are infrequent and

they are not on late, but as you can see we have enough disturbances already so why should we also have to endure the disturbance from amplified music and noise from patrons attending a late night venue up to 7 nights a week. It is just not fair to expect us to have to put up with this as well. I believe it will seriously affect the quality of our lives.

I also have a crime and disorder concern as the granting of an extension to the licence will allow the sale of alcohol to those attending the football and other late night events held at Alun Park. I am concerned that the consumption of alcohol at such events will lead to a rise in public order offences and antisocial behaviour especially as users of the site leave the area via the narrow access lane. Residents of houses overlooking Alun Park have already been the victim of crime and antisocial behaviour and have reported numerous incidents via the North Wales Police non-emergency number. I myself have reported several occurrences of antisocial behaviour from those using the car park at night or Gaining unlawful access to Alun Park, the most recent being the 16 of February 2016. The CCTV installed overlooking the car park seemed of little deterrent as the men / youths involved were screaming and shouting, revving their car engines and making a general nuisance of themselves. I am glad to say that after dialling 101 the police arrived within 10 minutes and dealt with the situation. I am certain that incidences such as this will increase if this licence extension is granted and the police have enough to do already.

There are many function rooms and community facilities for hire (e.g. Bryn Griffiths Club, Ex-Servicemen's Club, Parkfields Community Centre) and public houses / bars already in Mold. Granting an extension to the licence will take business away from these established facilities and stretch the police further in the vent of antisocial behaviour.

Finally I have a concern about the perceived underhanded and cynical way the licence for these premises was applied for in the first place and is now trying to be extended. The application for a licence fundamentally changed the operating hours and use of Alun Park, which previously only held daytime and early evening events without amplified music or sale of alcohol. A number of objections to the original application were made (including a petition with over 100 signatures), and that application was suddenly withdrawn. I have been informed that the applicants did not have the land owner's permission and did not have planning permission for the premises. The portakabins were placed upon the site late last year without planning permission and had to have it granted retrospectively before it existing premises licence could be granted. It appears that because this original application was withdrawn, all the original objections became null and void, and when a second application was submitted residents were not informed of the application as they had been previously. Signs were not posted in the same place, and were not posted on our estate at all. Many residents were disappointed that the local authority granted the licence without consideration of why there had been no objections when the original application received so many. I acknowledge that the second application did alter the opening hours to a more reasonable 11pm but now we have a third application to vary (extend) the licence. I can only consider this chain of events a cynical and devious attempt by the applicants to get what they want without any though or consideration to local residents. The withdrawal of the original application (no planning permission, no landowner permission), making objections null and void, the altering of the second application (different applicant, different hours) and submitting without proper notice (not posting notices in the same locations as the original), hoping local residents would not find out until it was too late, and now this extension means that the applicants will have achieved their aims by manipulating the

system and the licencing authority and ignored the objections of their neighbours. This perceived underhanded action does not bode for a productive future relationship between the club and its neighbours and makes me seriously doubt the integrity and honesty of those involved at the club.

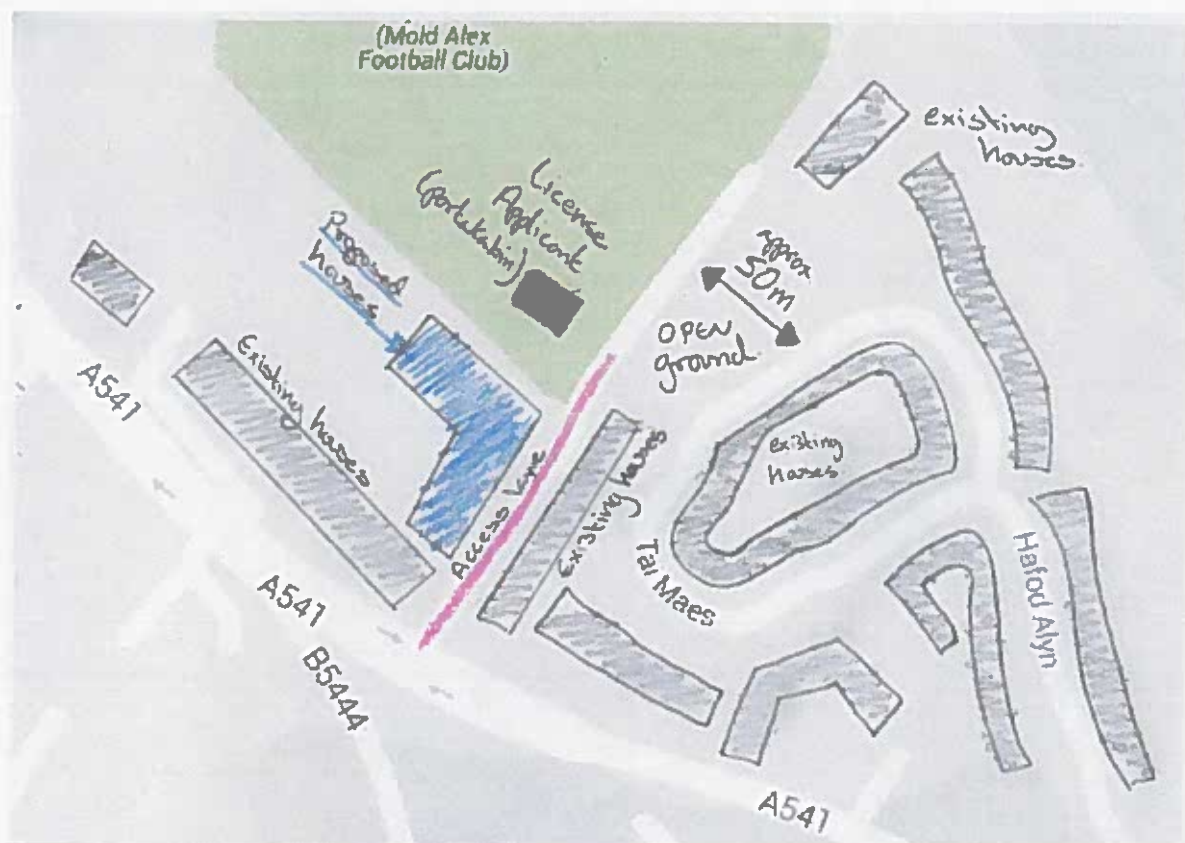
This venue is not needed, and is not wanted by a large number of the local community who will be most affected by its presence and have enough disturbance already.

Thank you for considering my objections.

Yours Sincerely



Mr Lewis Corbett.



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Mr M. Graham
85 Tai Maes
Mold
CH7 1RW

Gemma Potter
Head of Licensing
Entrance 3
Flintshire County Council
County Hall
Mold
CH7 6NB

Subject: Objection to extension of entertainment licence

Dear Ms Potter,

Please accept this communication as an official objection to any extension of entertainment licence to Mold Alex Football Club. It is with added insult that you have received this application when we have already campaigned to refuse this license twice, only to be overruled. For you to even consider this following the complete lack of public consultation prior to granting the licence on the 8th of August is a sham. However I will endeavour to adhere to due process, something that the applicant has ignored to do in the full spirit and honesty required.

Therefore once again I appeal to your sense of care and duty to the neighbouring community and ratepayers affected not to grant this extension. As is required I will repeat the objection following the correct procedure.

Crime and Disorder:

Currently residents are subjected to incidents of crime and disorder, with North Wales police being called to deal with antisocial behaviour, reported drug use and drug distribution within the car parking area. We have been subjected to littering into our garden from Mold Alex users as well as others reporting patrons urinating into their gardens, damage to their boundary fences and trespassing. Utterly grotesque behaviour and shows complete disregard to our properties and us as residents.

Public safety:


I have grave concerns but not limited to: overcrowding leading to an increase in violence or the safety of those on the premises. The current license stipulates windows and doors must remain shut during live music events, how will this be policed? Could this lead to overheating?


Public Nuisance:

The building is situated within a residential area with very close proximity to homes of which young families, elderly and those working various shifts. The construction of the prefabricated building does not lend itself for adequate protection from noise generated within the building. This has proven to be the case as recently as Tuesday 6th December as witnessed by me and my family, loud live music emanated from within which could be heard above our TV and in every room in the house, despite seemingly complying with conditions of permit issued by you. Any extension would only serve to increase the probability of additional noise as the designated smoking area would encourage continuous people traffic thus the opening and closing of door allowing the unacceptable level of noise to cause further annoyance. Currently the residents endure and make allowances for other events hosted at this premises, such as Fireworks, Monster trucks, Fun fairs, and are subjected

to irresponsible car parking on these occasions, again increasing air-pollution and once again noise pollution. Many residents feel that they have been treated with complete disregard from members and visiting guests particularly on match days, it follows that any extension to licensing can only provide additional opportunities to demonstrate the clubs blatant disrespect for their residential neighbours.

Regards







Mr & Mrs Robins
24 Tai Maes,
Mold
CH7 1 RW

14th of December 2016

FAO: Head of Licensing at Flintshire County Council

We wish to express our formal objection to the application of extension of premises license hours for Mold Alex FC. The basis of our objections is aligned to all four of the licensing objectives, specifically; prevention of crime and disorder, public nuisance, public safety and prevention of harm to children.

It is our understanding that there is a proposed plan to extend the current licensing times with longer opening hours Friday through to Sunday. Irrelevant of opening hours the fundamental reasons for our objection are the same. An increase in opening times will further negatively impact our family and many other residents who live within close proximity of Mold Alex FC.

Crime and Disorder:

When we purchased our property, which overlooks Mold Alex FC, almost 3 years ago we were of the understanding there would be some disruption and noise relating to the use of the football grounds. We did not however anticipate the utter disregard some users of Mold Alex FC show the residents on a regular basis with the use of loud, lewd and highly offensive language. We have three very young and impressionable children and often the noise and language can be so bad we are forced to close all windows and doors and avoid allowing our children to play outside during and after matches. Since the granting of the premise licence on the 8th of August this year we feel there has been some increase in these episodes, specifically on late night matches/training and adult matches of a weekend. This isn't very nice, and we have significant concerns based on current examples that to increase license hours of the premises would act to fuel the already unacceptable behaviour we put up with.

Residents have and continue to deal with many incidents of crime and disorder as a result of groups of people using Mold Alex Car Park at night, and patrons of the club on exit, to partake in a variety of activities ranging from drug use/ dealing, reckless driving, trespassing on private property, consumption of alcohol, playing loud music, screaming, shouting and the use of highly offensive language, damage to residential property, littering, being very threatening and the use of intimidating behaviour. It is my understanding that the police requested that a condition be attached to the license requesting that the premises be equipped with a CCTV system. Despite such system already being in place and active since February, as residents we have faced many disruptions. Examples of more serious incidents include individuals shooting a firearm in Mold Alex FC car park on the 16/2/16. The police were in attendance of the incident, including what appeared to be the firearms officer. Clearly the CCTV system does not act as a deterrent despite

being clearly visible. More recently residents have reported trespassing on their property late at night from Mold Alex Patrons, with some reporting that Patrons have urinated into their back gardens. This is disgusting behaviour.

Public Safety

We have concerns about public safety, including but not limited to: overcrowding (leading to an increase of violence or the safety of people in the premises), fire issues, anyone being hurt or having an accident in the licensed premises. The license currently stipulates windows and doors must remain shut during live music events, with no circulating air patrons are at risk of overheating, especially in view of the fact the porter cabin can hold up to 150 people. With reference to the risk of overheating, we are 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. How to you and Mold Alex plan on policing this?

Public Nuisance

The premises is a modular building; despite reassurances being given by Flintshire County Council prior to granting of a Premise License on the 8th of August 2016 that the porter cabin was well insulate, on par, if not better than some pubs in the area, and noise pollution would be limited, in practice this is simply not the case. As residents the noise pollution coming from the Clubhouse is regular, disruptive and causing upset to residents. It is far beyond what I've ever heard come from a pub. Flintshire County Council appear to have made many assumptions regarding limiting Noise Pollution in their assessments prior to granting a license but in practice, the reality is far different... a porter cabin construction does not offer protection against noise. It is an inappropriate building to license. The most recent example being on Tuesday the 13th of December where the music was that loud at 8.30pm it woke my 2 year old and 3 year old daughters who struggled to settle back to sleep. It also meant that my 6 year old son could not settle to sleep because and I quote "of the disco outside"! The volume of music was ludicrous and completely inappropriate for a residential area. All windows and doors in my property were closed and it is a well insulated house yet I could clearly distinguish the lyrics of the songs being played because the volume was so loud. This was not simply slight background noise/beat you often hear from venues playing music; to be able to hear the lyrics highlights how loud it was. To my knowledge several complaints have been logged with the Environmental Health team at Flintshire County Council regarding this.

As outlined above, in reality we are already suffering a significant amount of noise pollution both during and after a function, to allow an increase in licensing hours is irresponsible and would cause significant harm to local residents, especially vulnerable adults and children with sensory issues. There are residents within close proximity of Mold Alex FC who suffer from severe autism and have severe sensory issues. They are suffering significant distress due to noise from Mold Alex.

Even with limitations like speakers pointing away from residential properties, a noise limiter device fitted to the function room speaker and all windows and doors must be kept closed during live music (we note this does not included recorded music, which will be equally as intolerable), we fail to see how one; this can be policed by either yourselves or staff, in view of the fact the entertainment system (speakers) could be interchanging with different DJ's/bands

being used; and secondly how anyone is naive enough to think they can keep all windows and doors closed during any event when there is potentially 150 patrons coming in and out of the building and opening windows if it get too hot. Also the designated smoking area comes directly off the function room so it is impossible to keep this door closed at all times thus automatically breaching the licensing limitations currently in place.

Prevention of Harm to Children

Should an increase in licensing hours be granted it would most likely result in an increase in late night usage with more parties/functions being held. This would see an increase in traffic, antisocial behaviour, vandalism, fighting, offensive/intimidating language and behaviour. This assumption is based on the current problems we have to deal with, as outlined earlier in this letter. To install signs requesting patrons to be quiet on exiting has little effect on minimising these issues. We have 3 young children, who are 6, 3 and 2. All of which have significant health problems (respiratory and immunity) requiring consultant led care at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool. Peaceful and undisturbed sleep is a vital part of any child's life, but more so when they have such complex health needs. As a family we are often disturbed late at night by noise coming from Mold Alex. We have lost count how many times individuals have played knock and run, or rang our door bell as late as 2am. We have witnessed on many occasion the perpetrators run back into Mold Alex Car Park. We had hoped that with the placement of the new fence, and the newly restricted access to the estate that these incidences would stop; however this is not the case as they simply jump over the fence.

Currently we have to make allowances for other events hosted on the grounds of Mold Alex FC, these include the fireworks display, circus, monster trucks and 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 us as residents of the Soughton Park estate. Also the littering by people who watch these events from the green on the estate is absolutely disgusting and left to us residents to clean up afterwards. For the past two years we have not been able to access our own driveway because of irresponsible parking by non residents who are in attendance of the events hosted. The noise pollution suffered during these events have a detrimental effect on our ability to sleep, specifically my children who have previously become quite distressed with the fireworks display, monster trucks and circus. This is unacceptable, but thankfully these events are limited in frequency over a year. However if the new licensing application were to be granted then these detrimental effects on our lives, particularly my children, would be unbearable and would have a devastating effect on their health and well being.

We would also like to highlight once again our shock and disappointment in the lack of public consultation and advertisement of the application back in July/August time, this meant no objections were raised at that time, although Flitshire County Council were fully aware of the opposition to any sort of license being granted to the Clubhouse after submission of a 111 signatory petition being submitted back in February this year to the 1st application. Despite all of this you still saw fit to issue the current license. In essence this is the 3rd application Mold Alex has made regarding essentially the same license. It is an inconvenience for residents to have to continue to raise the same valid objections over and over again. I would therefore like to

highlight once again that the current licence is creating unacceptable disruption and distress so to increase licensing hours is absolutely unacceptable and strongly opposed.

We understand that Mold Alex FC is a facility benefitted by many members of the community; however the lack of consideration to the immediate community that are impacted does not bode well. It is difficult to broach any concerns such as noise pollution with Mold Alex directly because of the apparent fondness their charring members appear to have in airing raised concerns/information on social media such as Facebook, this has resulted in any concerns needing to be raised are done so via official routes. We understand that the Club needs to create revenue to function; we just do not understand the need for such a late alcohol and music license. After a meeting with the Chairman of Mold Alex some months ago he stated that the main target audience for use is the many child members of Mold Alex to have their birthday parties etc and to show football matches on the big screen. If this is the case then there would be absolutely no need for an alcohol licence so late and 6days a week. Firstly and foremost Mold Alex is a Football Club, not a Social Club.

We would appreciate a response to our objection, and to be kept up to date with any progress relating to the application and any future applications relating to the licensing of the premises.

Yours faithfully



Rhiannon & James Robins

From: Suzanne & Michael Williams
26 Tai Maes
Mold
CH7 1RW
December 15, 2016

Commented [A1]:

The Head of Public Protection
Flintshire County Council
County Hall
Mold
CH7 6NF

Dear The Head of Public Protection:

Once again, we would like to respectfully oppose the application for a Premises Licence at Mold Alexandra Football Club for the sale of alcohol, live music, recorded music, dancing and plays. We have spent some time considering the application and the impact that such licence is having upon our community.

At this point, I would like to express our disappointment that the club was granted any licence without consideration of the local community. The first application received significant opposition from this community. The application was withdrawn for reasons unbeknown to myself, however when a second application was made in July 2016, this was not advertised in the same way as the first. We, the community were made aware of the application *after* it had already been approved. In a telephone conversation with James Lowe I was advised that the second application had been advertised at the top of the Mold Alex driveway. Although this may have ticked a box under the Licencing Act, I find it unacceptable that the Licencing department did not consider the opposition that had already been presented. I find it difficult to believe that not one person at Flintshire County Council Licencing would question why such volume had been received first time around, but not one representation forwarded second time round.

For this reason, our opposition and concerns remain unchanged from our first representation. In fact, they are only heightened now that the club are hosting events and are requesting extended opening hours.

Our main concerns fall in line with the following objectives;

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The concern is around Anti-Social Behaviour. We believe that selling alcohol at a venue so close to a residential area is irresponsible and would increase the frequency of anti-social behaviour that has already been witnessed by the residents. We have called the authorities on a number of occasions due to anti-social behaviour based at the football pitch. We understand that each incident has been linked to either drug use or an excessive intake of alcohol. We are also aware of damage and urinating at neighbouring properties. We have been victims of burglary at this address and so we are already very security conscious. We are anxious that an increased number of people, using alcohol, late at night, will heighten our anxieties and would negatively impact our sleep patterns.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

Our second main concern is the level of noise, specifically of live music events and of people leaving the venue. We appreciate that the applicant has said that he will adhere to noise monitoring and would install

The Head of Public Protection
December 15, 2016
Page 2

signs, however we do not believe that this will be sufficient to go unnoticed by the immediate residents. The Morris homes walls are thin! People talking outside the house or on the green can be heard clearly. In the first two/three years living in Tai Maes, the school summer holidays were unbearable – small groups (5-10 people) would use the pitch in the evening and they could be heard clearly until early hours. Groups of a larger number will undoubtedly disturb our sleep and the sleep of our two young children. I query whether noise monitoring is, or has already taken place at the venue, as we have been disturbed by several music events over the last few months.

Noise and disturbance during the day time is not a cause for concern for us personally, but anything passed 7pm is deemed unacceptable (due to the impact on our children's sleep).

We would also like you to consider that even without an alcohol and music license we are already impacted by noise from events at the pitch. Football games themselves can be very loud and unfavourable language can be heard from our home during a game. We contend with disturbance from the fireworks display, monster trucks and the circus on an annual basis. All of the named events already take place and can be tolerated; however inconsiderate some of the visitors can be, the events are usually complete and cleared by around 8pm. People coming and going to the 'new' venue will be doing so until midnight or later.

Related to this application, we would also like to comment that the applicant has expressed that the purpose for the alcohol and entertainment license is to hold events for the community and to raise money for the club. The club has been a part of the community for many years and has managed to achieve this without such licence. Therefore, we do not see a need for an alcohol licence and late night opening hours.

We, the community, have also discussed the applications on our facebook site. The applicant (being a part of the immediate community) has not been community-focused and was in fact extremely rude and defensive to others. In my opinion, this did not demonstrate community engagement and initiated concerns about the true vision of the venue and the functions that they hope to book in the future.

Finally, we understand that the application is available for consideration by the planning department at FCC, however I was advised at a face to face meeting earlier this year that the Planning department rarely submit representations for licencing applications as they have their own applications to review and consider. This in itself is concerning. We would question whether the porta cabin set up has been reviewed by planning and deemed an appropriate venue for functions and for the intended volume of people.

We appreciate your time in reviewing our comments and hope that they are reviewed with the considered approach in which they were presented.

Sincerely,

Suzanne & Michael Williams
Tai Maes Residents

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Describe any additional steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives as a result of the proposed variation:

a) General – all four licensing objectives (b, c, d and e) (please read guidance note 9)

Maintain communication with Responsible Authorities

b) The prevention of crime and disorder

CCTV inside and outside.
Attend Pubwatch meetings.

c) Public safety

Comply with Welsh FA requirements.

d) The prevention of public nuisance

Noise level monitoring on live music.
Signs to be displayed requesting customers to be quiet when leaving.
Challenge 25 policy.
Direction of noise will be directed away from houses

e) The protection of children from harm

CRB on all staff.

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