

From: Christopher Jones <Christopher.Jones@merton.gov.uk>

Sent: 30 April 2021 09:36

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Raynes Park Vale Football Club, Grand Drive, London SW20 9DZ - Application for Licence

Dear All,

After due consideration of the above application, and in its opinion to meet the licensing objectives of 'the prevention of crime and disorder' and 'the protection of children from harm', Merton Trading Standards Service would like to make the following representation requesting that these conditions be added,

1. Notices shall be placed at all points of sale detailing the restrictions on sales of alcohol to children.
2. A record of refusals shall be maintained which documents every instance that a sale of alcohol (and any other age-restricted product) is refused on the premises, indicating the date and time the refusal was made, and the member of staff making the refusal.
3. The record of refusals shall be available for inspection by authorised officers of the licensing authority, officers of the trading standards service, and officers of the Police.
4. An effective methodology shall be in place at all points of sale to ensure staff undertake appropriate age checks on potential sales of alcohol (and any other age-restricted product).
5. All staff that undertake the sale or supply of alcohol (and any other age-restricted product) shall receive appropriate refresher training in relation to undertaking appropriate age checks on such, at least every three months.
6. Records of all staff training, relating to the sale or supply of alcohol (and any other age-restricted product), along with any training material used, will be kept and maintained by the Designated Premises Supervisor or the Premises Licence Holder.
7. Staff training records shall be available for inspection by authorised officers of the licensing authority, officers of the trading standards service, and officers of the Police.

Many thanks,

Christopher

Christopher Jones
Senior Principal Trading Standards Officer

Telephone: 020 8288 5650

Email: christopher.jones@merton.gov.uk

From: Councillor Eloise Bailey <Eloise.Bailey@merton.gov.uk>

Sent: 26 May 2021 13:43

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Cc: Councillor Hina Bokhari <Hina.Bokhari@merton.gov.uk>

Subject: Raynes Park Vale FC licensing representation

Dear Licencing,

Please see below representations from West Barnes Councillors Cllr Bailey and Bokhari against the Raynes Park Vale FC licencing application.

We fully support a place for locals to enjoy refreshments and entertainment and value local businesses thriving in the area. We must however make sure that it does not impact local residents with noise or pollution. We have come to the opinion that the application as it stands will not be suitable for the area after extensive conversations and correspondence with local residents.

Below outlines the main areas of concerns from residents:

Public Safety:

We are concerned there is a lack of safe routes to attend the premises - for example:

- No clearly defined paths/walkways for pedestrians to exit from the premises.
- No street lighting leading away from the premises, with the nearest road with street lighting around 300 meters away (Grand Drive).
- No clearly defined areas for parking or 'drop-off' areas or signs leading customers to the correct route away from the clubhouse.
- There remains debris surrounding the club, for example, rubble, that needs to be cleared to ensure the site is free of trip hazards.
- Concerns about access for emergency vehicles, as I understand that the main gates into Prince Georges Playing Fields are locked in the evening. This is the main access point for all vehicles entering the site, including emergency response vehicles. Clarity is needed with regards if this access point will be managed differently if the premises licence is granted to enable vehicle access during all times of the proposed hours of operation. Understanding why these gates are currently locked will also need to be explored, I assume it is to decrease antisocial behaviour including vehicle access to the fields.

Light, noise, and fume pollution:

- Currently, no lights or loud noise is transmitted from the clubhouse. Meaning any increase in activity will have a negative impact on this very peaceful site. Residents note that the Merton Council Website describes the area as follows - "Cannon Hill Common is a great place for walking, recreational fishing and angling, dog walking, bird watching and simply getting away from urban life and enjoying a small piece of countryside in the city." As the club is within very close distance of the common, allowing for late-night music/entertainment would detract from the appeal of the area.
- An increase in noise and light will negatively impact the lives of the residents and local wildlife
- Increase in the volume of waste produced.
- Concerns about how the football club will organise waste collection - currently the site is not regularly cleaned.
- Concern over litter increasing in cannon hill common and surrounding streets.

The Prevention of Public Nuisances:

- Increase in public nuisances including noise, litter, general disturbances of the area, anti-social behaviour, and light pollution.
- The application for live music recorded music, and films (indoor & outdoor) from 11 am -till late means continual noise. This would be on top of noise from customers, cars, delivery vans etc and would vastly impact the tranquillity of the area and would be harmful to the health of residents as is likely to disturb sleep and detract from the health benefits

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder:

- Due to the location of the clubhouse, residents are concerned about the ability to contain the spread of any disorder or anti-social behaviour within the immediate premises. Spill over to the surrounding fields and Cannon Hill Common seems likely.
- As the site is set back from the main road and without street lighting, there is concern that it will be a hidden area for crime to happen unnoticed.

The Protection of Children from Harm:

- School Playing fields directly opposite the clubhouse, with a mesh/open fence dividing the areas. Therefore, any consumption and selling of alcohol outside (and associated behaviours) would be in close proximity and visible to children. This is especially concerning as the request for selling alcohol is from 10am.

Harm to the environment:

- Neither loud music nor film exhibition is appropriate for local wildlife. The granting of this license will disrupt animals, birds, and insects and will impact their habitats through trampling of the wildflower meadow. This is not in accordance with the land being Metropolitan Open Land, which should be protected as green belt land.
- The field is home to a vast array of wildlife and there are concerns about the impact that an increased volume of footfall through the field, litter, noise, and bright lights may have on local wildlife habitats.
- Prince George's Playing Fields are directly adjacent to the site to the north which is a designated site of importance for nature conservation (a 'SINC'), while Cannon Hill Common to the south is home to a protected nature reserve. The land in between belonging to the football club is Metropolitan Open Land and part of a Green Chain, and therefore ought to be treated as an important ecological site - from the Mayor of London's policy on this "*The strongest protection should be given to London's Metropolitan Open Land and inappropriate development refused, except in very special circumstances, giving the same level of protection as in the Green Belt. Essential ancillary facilities for appropriate uses will only be acceptable where they maintain the openness of MOL.*" (See map image below.) The impact assessment on this woodland ecosystem of commercialization of the land ought to be undertaken with care.

Kind regards
Cllrs Bailey and Bokhari

FRIENDS OF CANNON HILL COMMON



Dear Licensing Department

Licensing Application (WK/202103135)

Merton and Morden Urban District Council purchased 53 and a half acres from the developer George Blay in 1925 and named it Cannon Hill Common, designating the site of the old Cannon Hill House as a bird sanctuary in 1929. The common is now owned and managed by Merton Council and is categorised as a site of borough importance Grade 1. It was designated a Local Nature Reserve in 1998.

The Friends of Cannon Hill Common was set up in 1995 to (among other things)

- 1.1 To preserve for public enjoyment the area known as Cannon Hill Common.***
- 1.2 To protect and develop the flora and fauna of the Common.***

We are therefore very concerned to learn that the owner of the Coffee stall now located at the Raynes Park Vale Football Club has applied for a licence to open for longer hours seven days a week serving alcohol and providing outdoor entertainment.

Raynes Park Vale Football Club is on Prince George's Playing Field, which is Metropolitan Open Land and a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. Prince George's Playing Fields (PGPF) is Metropolitan Open Land so it should be preserved as green space for relaxation and sporting use. The land is privately owned and Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC) only lease a part of it. The number of commercial events on PGPF is limited to preserve the visual amenities of the site and the nature conservation quality of the site. This is stated in

https://www.merton.gov.uk/assets/Documents/0974-prince_georges_playing_fields_sw20.pdf

which includes a map showing the boundaries of the site.

It is also likely that the biodiversity of the area will suffer. PGPF is designated a SINC because of some rare plant species. The advent of the coffee stall and "artisans' markets" has already caused disturbance and trampling which is likely have a negative impact on the plant species. The part of PGPF nearest to Berrylands beside the decking which is being built, is a meadow area which supports a wide variety of plants and invertebrates. As a result, bats are regularly seen feeding overhead and many bird species visit it, including the Little Owls which have often nested nearby recently. If this licence were granted, the noise and lights will drive such species away. The owner has already indicated that he intends to serve drinks and food and have "regulated entertainment" for longer hours (up to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays). This will impact directly on the wildlife which lives around the playing fields and in the woodland adjoining them. Additional lighting and music will be highly detrimental to the wellbeing of all the different species – some of which are rare in the London area.

FRIENDS OF CANNON HILL COMMON

While this may not directly be a reason to refuse the application, local residents, who use the area for relaxation and to de-stress, will be negatively impacted by the loss of wildlife, so this is again causing a public nuisance. There is published scientific evidence that access to nature is beneficial for mental health and well being e.g. <https://www.health.harvard.edu/mind-and-mood/sour-mood-getting-you-down-get-back-to-nature> and <https://www.mind.org.uk/media-a/2931/nature-and-mental-health-2018.pdf> so allowing a “pub” to open in the middle of an important piece of Metropolitan open Land is inappropriate.

The adjoining “Common” has already been affected by the increase of footfall during the last year. Whilst we are pleased that local residents have been able to benefit from the green space on their doorstep, there has been a noticeable effect on the amount of rubbish left in the litter bins on the common as people buying drinks from the coffee stall tend to put the empty containers into the litter bins rather than taking them home to be recycled. This has meant additional work for the teams responsible for emptying the litter bins and for local volunteers litter picking on the common. It has also meant that there has also been an increase in litter being taken out of the bins by the crows, foxes and rats which are attracted to anything that resembles food. This is particularly worrying when one takes into account the diseases which rats, in particular, can spread such as leptospirosis. Longer opening hours for the Football Club would only exacerbate these trends.

Currently we understand the Raynes Park Football Club has a licence for hospitality for members and guests only. What appears to be intended is that a public pub/wine bar is being proposed for this site which is totally unsuitable in this area. The licence should remain for club members only and the additional hours and extension of facilities should be refused.

We strongly object to this application and urge the Licensing committee to reject it.

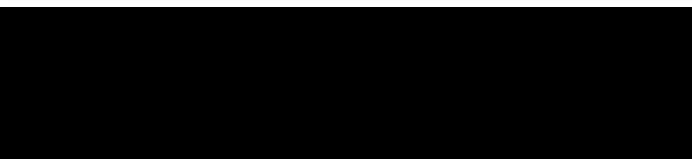
Paragraph 4.5 of Merton Council’s Licensing Policy (2021-2026) states

“Licensing law is not the primary mechanism for the general control of nuisance and anti social behaviour by individuals once they are away from the licensed premises and, therefore, beyond the direct control of those responsible for the individual premises or places. Nonetheless, it is a key aspect of such control and licensing law will always be part of a holistic approach to the management of the evening and night-time economy in the London Borough of Merton.”

We strongly urge the Licensing Committee to protect Prince George’s Playing Fields, with its Metropolitan Open Land Status and the adjoining greenspaces in order to maintain the well-being of both the people and the wildlife which live nearby.

The use of the football club’s premises should be for members of the club only, with the conditions stated in the current licence.

Yours faithfully



Carolyn Heathcote

Honorary Secretary of the Friends of Cannon Hill Common

From: RPWBRA <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 18 May 2021 12:01
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: John Elvidge <[REDACTED]>; Councillor Hina Bokhari <Hina.Bokhari@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Eloise Bailey <Eloise.Bailey@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Pauline Cowper <Pauline.Cowper@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Jenifer Gould <Jenifer.Gould@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Nick McLean <Nick.McLean@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Carl Quilliam <Carl.Quilliam@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Adam Bush <Adam.Bush@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Omar Bush <Omar.Bush@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Stephen Crowe <Stephen.Crowe@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Licensing Application: WK/202103135

RAYNES PARK AND WEST BARNES
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1928

18 May 2021

Licensing Team
London Borough of Merton
1st Floor Annexe
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden
SM4 5DX

Re: Licensing Application: WK/202103135

Dear Sir/Madam,

We write to object in the strongest terms to the above application.

We are the Raynes Park and West Barnes Residents' Association, which was founded in 1928, and has some 1800 household members. Our area includes the whole of Prince George's Playing Fields, on part of which sits the Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC), as well as Cannon Hill Common.

Many of our members live in the streets nearest to the application site, which are Berrylands, Cannon Close, Heath Drive, Parkway, Cannon Hill Lane, and Grand Drive, as well as all the roads off Grand Drive. If the application were to be granted, the whole area will be very seriously affected from morning until very late at night on every day of the week throughout the year.

Prince George's Playing Fields is designated as Metropolitan Open Land and as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, Grade 2.

It is extensively used for public recreation and has been invaluable as such during the lockdowns. It is used at weekends for football matches. The whole site is subject to planning

controls imposed by the Council in 2009 which restrict the use of the Fields to 14 sales events and 14 other events in the year. Vehicular access to the site for these purposes is off Bushey Road.

The Football Club is situated on the south side of the footpath that leads from Grand Drive to Whatley Avenue. Vehicular access to this is from Grand Drive along the footpath. This also provides access to the extensive playing fields of the French Lycée, whose grounds and changing rooms are not open to the public. The Lycée has both female and male pupils of all ages. Their grounds are opposite the clubhouse of RPVFC and are heavily used.

The clubhouse of RPVFC is very close to the houses in Berrylands and Grand Drive. This is currently being extended to allow for groups of 150 people at wedding parties and other gatherings. The Club is also building an extensive decking area which it intends to use for outdoor entertainment, including music and films.

RPVFC has already a club licence to provide alcohol for its Members and their guests from 11 am to 11 pm with music allowed during the same times. This licence is subject to stringent conditions to prevent the disturbance of local residents.

These include that when regulated entertainment is being provided, all doors and windows should be kept shut. At the same time, patrols should take place on an hourly basis at the perimeter of the property to ensure that there is no sound escape. If there is such an escape, action should be taken immediately to reduce the noise to a level that is not audible at the nearest residential property. After 11pm patrols should also address noisy patrons outside their premises. A logbook is to be kept to record such patrols and should be made available for inspection by Council officers.

The Club also has to put up clear signs at the exit points stating: "This is a residential area, please leave quietly".

Quite clearly, the provision of decking outside the clubhouse, where people can take food and drinks, and listen to music, and watch films, would be totally inconsistent with the present conditions that are designed to protect residents. The "regulated entertainment" is also intended under the present application to continue to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays, and until 1.30 am on New Year's Eve.

The present application goes very much further than the provision of alcohol for Members and their guests. The intention is to sell food and alcohol on a commercial basis to the public generally.

IT WOULD BECOME A PUB.

The application is being made by a catering company which has run local pubs as licensees for the past 25 years. We understand that a portion of the profits it hopes to make will be shared with the Club. In their post on the social media site Nextdoor on 17.4.21 the proprietors say that:

"The club already has a licence for its members and we just want to open up a bit to the

locals... The vision is to have a nice area for locals to stop off and socialise. The outside area however will only be open till 10pm. May I point out that there will be no amplified music on the decking just nice acoustic individuals and duets. There will be some nice craft beers available as well as a nice wine list and a few simple cocktails (as in Pimms on the deck). There will also be a fresh food offering ... Our opening hours will be 12.00 midday till 11 pm Mon to Sun. We have applied for longer licenses to allow some flexibility with our weddings etc.”

However, despite these public assurances from the proprietors, this is NOT what has been applied for. The application, were it to be granted, would allow for more latitude, including the holding of noisy outdoor events late into the night

We object under the following four grounds:

A.

The prevention of crime and disorder

The site is isolated being up a footpath and is in the middle of open land. At night it is completely dark except for any lighting from the Club. There are no street lights and there is no lighting on the footpath. In the winter it is dark by 4pm.

It would be inappropriate to install outdoor lighting leading to and from the Clubhouse because it would disturb local residents. And have a negative impact on wildlife (foraging bats and owls). Further, all development on Metropolitan Open Land has to be “essential” in support of the permitted use of outdoor sport unless “very special circumstances” can be demonstrated otherwise. Lighting and decking would almost certainly be in conflict with the MOL designation of the whole site.

The proposal is to have unregulated drinking by members of the public. It is hard to see how members of RPVFC could easily control excess drinking or disturbances. There will be times when there are over 150 people on the site. Women would be at particular risk in such a situation. Licensed public houses are accessible from the public highway. This is not. There are no police patrols in the area. The risk is self-evident, and high.

B.

Public safety.

The same points as above apply.

C.

The prevention of public nuisance

The Fields are designated for the quiet enjoyment of open space. Residents and their families use the Fields for informal games, exercise, dog-walking, and to de-stress (access to green spaces being good for mental and physical health). Having a pub there is totally

outside the purpose of the designation of the Fields as Metropolitan Open Land.

There is very limited car parking at the site, and most people will come by car. If the cars are parked on the rest of Prince's George's field it will damage the surface and disturb the wildlife. Cars would be coming in and out of the Grand Drive entrance very late into the night. There is limited parking also on Grand Drive and the surrounding streets. Residents would be disturbed nightly by car doors slamming, and people talking, often over loudly. There would be the potential for car theft and damage. There would be some likelihood of an increase in drink driving in the area.

If people came by taxi or minicab there would be further disturbance.

Noise from the decking, and other outdoor drinking will be heard over a very wide area, in a totally residential area. Light pollution would also be seen until very late.

Many of our residents work long hours and do not wish to be disturbed in their evening hours or their sleep. They wish to enjoy the quiet of their gardens at the weekends or on summer evenings.

Many of our residents have families and will not want their children exposed to the noise from a "Pub", nor have their sleep disturbed.

In the past the gates to the access to the Fields off Grand Drive were locked at night to prevent the stealing/dumping and torching of cars. They could no longer be locked during the hours of darkness if this application was approved.

In recent months a coffee stall has been placed next to the clubhouse and an Artisans' Market has grown up at weekends. The result has been a great increase in littering in the surrounding area and on Cannon Hill Common, which the bins do not fully cater for. This can only increase if food and drink can be served outdoors to the public.

D.

The protection of children from harm.

The decking is opposite the playing fields of the French Lycee. The children would be in close proximity to people drinking alcohol on the outside decking.

Girls and Boys sports teams also practise and play on the main field area of Prince George's so it is not just a problem for the Lycee. Children also play freely there.

They should not be in close proximity to adults who may become intoxicated. The best-regulated football clubs and pubs in the country have problems with alcohol and poor behaviour but do not have young unaccompanied children to worry about.

Under age drinking already occurs on the Fields and Cannon Hill Common, with empty cans and bottles and nitrous oxide capsules being found. Having overage drinking there could increase this.

WE URGE THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE TO GIVE FULL WEIGHT TO THE VIEWS OF RESIDENTS, AND TO REJECT THE APPLICATION OUTRIGHT.

ANY NEW LICENCE SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME CONDITIONS AND CONTROLS AS EXIST ON THE PRESENT CLUB LICENCE. ANY LICENCE SHOULD BE FOR INDOORS ONLY AS AT PRESENT.

IN PARTICULAR THERE SHOULD BE NO SALE OF ALCOHOL PERMITTED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

John Elvidge

Chair of the RPWBRA

Copied to Councillors of Cannon Hill, West Barnes, and Raynes Park Wards

From: David Archbold <
Sent: 08 May 2021 15:23
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: Janet Archbold <
Subject: WK/202103135: Raynes Park Vale Football Club - Resident Comments

Licensing Reference: WK/202103135

Dear Merton Council

I am writing to you to present my comments on application **WK/202103135** raised by **Raynes Park Vale Football Club**.

We are local residents residing at *****, a short distance from Raynes Park Vale Football Club and can see the club and surrounding area from our house.

We would like to register our strong objections to the proposed activities which are specified on the license application primarily due to the noise and disturbance that it will create for local residents in what is currently a quiet residential area.

The area to the rear of the current building where the club are proposing to host film exhibitions, live and recorded music and late-night refreshments of alcohol is directly behind the gardens of the residents of Berrylands, Parkway and Heath Drive which includes our property.

These activities will generate significant noise and disturbance in this area which is unacceptable for people living in the vicinity who already experience significant noise from the busy Grand Drive area and cars using Heath Drive and Parkway as a cut-through. The fields and woodland around the site of the football club is currently a lovely, quiet place that allows local people to get away from the hustle and bustle of the roads and busier areas of Raynes Park. This is a built-up residential area with a lot of young families whose children go to the nearby primary schools, many of which sleep in the rear of their houses and would be directly impacted by the noise and light disturbances from these events.

On visual amenity, all residents backing onto the area, including ourselves, currently enjoy a pleasant view of the woodland and surrounding fields. The activities proposed by the club will completely alter that by being replaced by large groups of people as well as audio-visual equipment and stages to host these events. Raynes Park is a heavily populated area of Merton with small numbers of green spaces. The council have a responsibility to maintain these small numbers of areas of pleasant visual amenity and not grant private companies licenses to profit from turning them into sites for drinking and noisy entertainment.

There will also be a huge loss of privacy for residents from the activities proposed and associated stages/seating areas to support them, as our houses will be directly overlooked by those coming to partake in the events and drinking outside.

Traffic on Grand Drive, which already results in huge queues down to the traffic lights, will be further impacted as these events and activities draw more cars to the area. There is also limited parking at the club and I suspect people will park on the green space directly behind the club which will result in more noise and car pollution for the residents backing onto the area. There is also the question of safety with more cars driving and parking on the green space behind the club which is currently used by families walking with their children and dogs.

We also have significant concerns about smells from outdoor food sales which is also proposed. Smells from cooking would directly travel into the houses of nearby residents which would be very unpleasant.

Finally, having spoken to a number of both local residents and those that come from further afield for walks in this area, people are aghast at the plans to turn a quiet peaceful green space in the heart of Raynes Park into a location for daytime and late-night music, films and drinking.

The football club already enjoys the ability to sell alcohol indoors and to host entertainment. This existing license was granted with conditions that noise cannot disturb neighbours. It is therefore completely inappropriate to be considering granting a license for outdoor music, films as well as eating and serving alcohol which would do exactly the opposite.

We strongly oppose any change to the existing license the club has for the above reasons and would like to see the council reject the application in full.

Yours sincerely

David Archbold & Janet Archbold

From: Sylvie Ledig

Sent: 26 May 2021 20:39

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Subject: Application for an alcohol license for Raynes Park Vale football club. WK 202103135.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to put forwards a representations against the application for an alcohol license for Raynes Park Vale football club. WK/202103135.

This application is to sell alcohol day and evenings in a peaceful and secluded area mainly used by families and dog walkers as an outdoor recreation area.

A coffee van has been added at the back of the football club as well as a small market, these are inkeeping with the atmosphere of the area, but the sale of alcohol in such a remote spot is likely to attract the type of customers, that shut the Railway Tavern down in nearby Raynes Park as well as the Emma Hamilton (Kingston Road) thus breaking the peace.

I strongly object to the sale of alcohol to the public on that site:

Drunkenness and resulting disorder will make the area unsafe for families with young children, and dogwalkers.

The noise of drinking to the late hours of the evening (plus music) will be a public nuisance for all those seaking the tranquility of the area including nearby neighbours.

As it is off the beaten track and near woods, many lady dogwalkers feel uneasy at the prospect of people drinking all day and into the night. High school girls using the area as a route home from school will also be at risk. This used to be a peaceful, safe neighbourly area.

Since the coffee truck has opened, discarded coffee cups have appeared on adjoining Cannon Hill Common, glass from bear bottles and glasses would soon follow.

As for the music, the nearby neighbours will be inconvenienced, but it concerns me less than the sale of alcohol.

I hope my objection will be taken into consideration.

Yours sincerely

Sylvie Avery

From:

Sent: 26 May 2021 12:44

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>; Hiya.bokhari@merton.gov.uk; Councillor Eloise Bailey <Eloise.Bailey@merton.gov.uk>

Cc: Wb@mertonlibdems.org.uk; Hina.bokhari@merton.gov.uk

Subject: Re: Raynes park Vale football club - premises licence

Further to my initial concerns for the application, I noticed on a walk across the common yesterday the number of school children of all ages who use the field as a cut through. This would effectively be a cut through a beer garden if the application is approved for the proposed times. Are there any plans to fence off the area selling and serving alcohol from both passing traffic and also the adjacent school playing field? Will there also be adequate lighting for those leaving the pub/area selling alcohol once dark as there is currently no lighting. If there will be new lighting put up, will there be surveys on the impact to bats which are common across the fields?

Thanks
Ben

From: Ben Baldock <

Sent: 07 May 2021 17:44

To: Licensing@merton.gov.uk <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>; Hiya.bokhari@merton.gov.uk <Hiya.bokhari@merton.gov.uk>

Cc: Wb@mertonlibdems.org.uk <Wb@mertonlibdems.org.uk>

Subject: Re: Raynes park Vale football club - premises licence

I have received notification that the licence request has changed. My concerns have not changed and if anything there is a greater concern on the impact to our right to enjoy our garden without impact.

I look forward to hearing more around the application

From: Ben Baldock

Sent: 06 May 2021 08:37

To: Licensing@merton.gov.uk <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Subject: Raynes park Vale football club - premises licence

I am writing in regards to the above requests with concerns over the licence request.

Toilet provision - with potentially large crowds of people, how many toilets will be provided?
Noise - how will noise of both music and crowds which back onto residential gardens be controlled and managed? I have concerns with a young family with our garden facing the outdoor area of the football club.

Vermin - this spring we have seen a massive increase in rats around Cannon Hill Common. You will often see them during the day around the pond, the allotments, Edwin's walk and the bins at the football club. I do not know why rats have appeared to be more of a problem this year. How will this problem be controlled?

Crowds - how will crowds be controlled? Having moved out from central London where certain unlikely locations have become magnets for outdoor drinking, this location could end up the same way. We saw a party on Cannon Hill Common last summer attract hundreds of

people from around London and although that event was not an issue, there was still lots of rubbish left around

Time of day for provision - the potential for late night drinking at the back of our house and with a 5 month old baby, this is a concern. Is there any need to have the premises open through the year and everyday to at least 10.30pm?

Waste disposal - there are currently only a few large bins which are often overflowing through the week alongside the football pitch. Will there be additional waste collections to deter vermin and fly tipping? Also the potential disposal of waste in the fields and hedgerows is a concern.

Parking - is there a parking solution or will people use surrounding residential roads?

I am generally supportive of the football club expanding their operations but this licence request seems to go quite far and has potential to cause continuous issues.

Thanks

Ben Baldock

26/05/2021

Attn. Merton Licensing Section

RPVFC License Application: WK/202103135.

I would like to register my concerns about the above referenced licence application on the following grounds. I believe it could turn the mostly quiet football club into a busy pub, perhaps partially replacing the "Edward Rayne" which has closed permanently. The club is less than 10 minutes' walk from Raynes Park Station.

Public Nuisance

A licence allowing alcohol sales to members of the public until 11:00 pm on weekdays and midnight on Fridays and Saturdays (with the premises staying open for another half hour) will mean noise and traffic and general disturbance late at night close to my address. We already hear this on football training nights from club members.

I am also concerned about the parking facilities, as there will be no easy pedestrian access. Will the Playing Fields be turned into a muddy carpark?

Crime & Disorder

There is already a small amount of "youthful disorder" taking place on Prince George's at night, and we see a lot of discarded empty bottles left on the field. Adding a public bar is likely to increase this. The access road is unlit, as is all the other access pedestrian routes. At present the gates at the Grand Drive end of the access road are closed and locked at night unless there is some activity at the clubhouse (club or hire), which, generally, prevents access to the fields by unauthorised vehicles at night.

Public Safety

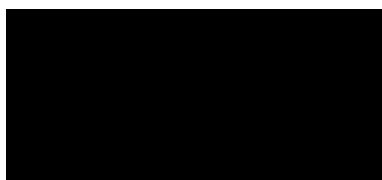
The narrow access road carries a cycle path, a footpath and school coaches. It isn't safe for extra traffic driving to and from a new pub which is likely to be very popular with young people.

As a woman I believe I would feel uncomfortable and unsafe having to walk past wine and beer drinkers on the Club's new terrace when walking to the common from Grand Drive.

Protection of Children

Messines Field is situated opposite the club house entrance and is a heavily used school sports ground for athletics and general sports, the pupils are both male and female. They shouldn't suffer being constantly overlooked by pub customers.

Mette Barwick (Mrs)



26/5/2021

Attn. Merton Licensing

Re. Premises License Application: WK/202103135 by Raynes Park Vale FC.

I wish to object to the proposed change of Licence for RPVFC on Prince Georges' Playing Field. My comments relate to the four licensing objectives as follows:

- a) Public Nuisance (Paras. 1,2,3,4,5).
- b) Crime & Disorder (Paras. 1,3,4,)
- c) Public Safety (Paras. 1,3,5)
- d) Protection of Children (Para. 6)

Background

I live in Grand Drive adjacent to the gated narrow road which provides the only vehicle access to Prince George's Field, the Football Club, and the French School's playing field (Messines Field). I have lived here for the past 30 years. The access road is very narrow, and has no pavements. It is combined with a footpath and cycle path running from Grand Drive to Whatley Avenue. It is constantly used by families with children taking exercise and dog walkers. Coaches squeeze through it to carry school children to and from the French school's playing field.

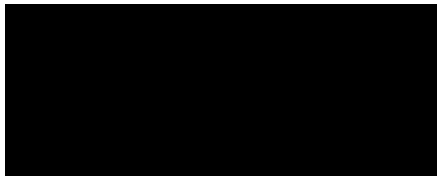
During the Covid19 lock down periods the use of PGs for exercise has increased enormously providing plenty of customers for the new catering trailer parked next to the RPVFC Club. A new artisan market has also proved to be popular at weekends and the club is currently building a large outdoor decking area.

1. If this licence application is granted, the club could turn into a pub in all but name and the increased vehicle traffic from members of the public will be a danger to dog walkers using the footpath which is along the narrow road. There is likely to be conflict between vehicles, people and cyclists heading in opposite directions. I'm also concerned about reduced security as the gate is normally closed for vehicle access at night, with the Groundsman locking up at the end of his working day and re-opening the following morning but it would have to be left open for pub customers, allowing any vehicles access at night. In the past, before the gates were fixed we would get joy riders driving stolen cars on the field before setting them on fire.
2. The site has very little parking next to the clubhouse, it is already full to overflowing during football matches and football practice evenings so pub customers would be likely to park on the grassy areas nearby, or on the main playing field which is already suffering from excessive Boot Sale traffic so more damage will be done to the playing surface. The entire area is designated Metropolitan Open Land (M.O.L.) and Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (S.I.N.C.).
3. Under the existing club's licence (alcohol sales to members only) there have been a few late night openings at weekends in the past, catering for birthday parties or similar. We have been woken by noisy disturbances from young people leaving the club after these events. Police have attended on numerous occasions and we even had a 163 bus vandalised when the driver refused entry for some youths deemed to be too drunk. Owing to the current club membership rules this type of public nuisance has been very rare but would be bound to happen more often if the club is granted a public licence.

4. I understand that the applicant is an experienced pub manager but would suggest that even a moderate amount of alcohol supplied to groups of youngsters will often result in noisy, rowdy and antisocial behaviour once they have left the premises.
5. Departing drinkers can leave by four routes, by footpath South via Canon Hill common to Parkway and Heath Drive, East by footpath to Whatley Avenue, North by crossing the Main Playing Field to Bushey Rd, and across to the Apostle Roads and West, by car or on foot along the access Rd. / footpath to Grand Drive and nearby 163 bus stop which is in front our house. All of these routes are unlit and at present used by a few lone dog walkers after sunset. However, if a public licence is granted we could have groups of inebriated people creating disturbances on these routes. It can be an alarming experience to meet such groups on an unlit path at night.
6. The Coffee bar and new terrace under construction overlook the French School's sports field used by girls as well as boys. At weekends Prince George's main playing field is used by all sorts of local teams including youth teams. This is not an appropriate position for a new Pub / bar serving alcohol from 10:00 am each day.

I hope that the licensing committee will turn down this request to allow public alcohol sales but if not, I would ask that you apply similar anti-noise and disturbance conditions to those on the existing club licence.

Andrew Barwick



From: Mark Beecroft <
Sent: 24 May 2021 20:06
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application Reference WK/202103135

Address Raynes Park Vale Football Club, Prince George's Playing Fields,
Grand Drive, Raynes Park, London, SW20 9NB
Applicant(s) Raynes Park Vale Football Club
Application Reference WK/202103135
Application Type New Premises Licence

I am writing in support of this application.

There are no facilities like this within easy walking distance of our house.

In my opinion, granting this license would enable the club to offer much-needed new possibilities for social cohesion within our local area - the kinds of things my wife and I have had to go much further afield to enjoy in the decades we have lived at this address.

I have no connection to anybody at Raynes Park Vale Football Club, but feel that this is a good initiative and that it will impact positively on the neighbourhood.

Mark Beecroft

From: David Belle <
Sent: 05 May 2021 18:34
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Raynes Park Vale Football Club licence opposition

David Belle,

On Wed, 5 May 2021 at 18:33, David Belle <> wrote:

Dear Merton Council Licensing Committee,

We are writing to oppose the premises license being proposed by Raynes Park Vale Football Club, Grand Drive, Raynes Park SW20 9DZ dated 29 April 2021 (WK/202103135).

Please find our concerns outlined below.

Crime and Disorder

1. We have already had issues with public urination by our fences following events in the football club. With longer opening hours and daily events we are concerned this problem will get worse.
2. Residents have had trespassers in their gardens in the past e.g. children whose parents were socialising in the club scaling their fences to play on their swings and trampolines.
3. Within half a mile of the area where the proposed public bar will be there were 37 crimes reported of a violent or sexual nature (source <https://www.streetcheck.co.uk/crime/sw209db/2020/11>). We are concerned that having a public bar in the area will lead to further crimes of this nature.

Public Nuisance

1. Pre-covid restrictions, noise from functions in the football club late at night have already caused disturbance in the area but as these have been so rare in recent years the residents have put up with it with little complaint. In the past there were functions every weekend which affected the resident's ability to enjoy sitting in their gardens and disturbed their sleep with not only loud music but also shouting / singing when the customers left the premises at the end of the evening. When the residents complained to the police nothing was done about it and the bar managers didn't answer the phone. We are aware from the prospective licensees that they have a capacity of up to 300. This many people leaving at 11pm on weeknights and midnight on weekends is unacceptable, this is especially frustrating to the locals due to the suburban location and will disturb the sleep of the residents many of whom are babies or elderly.
2. The leaseholders of the land and premises have already begun building decking around the side of the football club. Even if this is only used for coffee and eating, without a sound barrier it will still bring great disturbance to the residential properties as it is only 33 steps from the fences. It also interferes with the green space which the properties which back onto the area have paid a premium for.
3. We have already had issues with loud bad language from people coming to watch the football on the weekend. Larger crowds of adults imbibing alcohol is likely to make this problem worse.
4. We are aware that there are plans to have live music outside the venue on the decking. This would cause an unacceptable level of disturbance, preventing us enjoying our gardens and impacting our children's sleep. There are at least 7 children whose bedrooms back onto the area where the decking is being built.
5. Local residents with mental health conditions (e.g. dementia, PTSD, anxiety, autism with sensory overload issues) will be greatly impacted by this noise and they chose to live in this quiet location to ensure they wouldn't be affected by noise pollution.

Protection of Children from Harm

1. In the past when the football club was used frequently for functions there was often broken glass in the grassy area behind our fences. Children and animals returned home with cuts on their feet from this.
2. See Crime and Disorder point 2. In the past adults have let their children leave the club unsupervised and they have entered gardens of the residents. This could result in injury to these children.
3. The decking area that is being built is not separated adequately from the green field, effectively allowing alcohol to be consumed from 10am in an area where children play. In addition the children carrying out their PE lessons in the school playing fields will be witnessing adults drinking from 10am.

Public Safety

1. There is concern from the residents, particularly female residents, about safety walking home in the evening if there are crowds of people who have been drinking all day, particularly given recent events. The area surrounding the venue is poorly lit, increasing the danger if large crowds of men are drinking alcohol there.
2. There is already quite a bad rat problem from the sewers in the area with some residents having paid out in excess of £1000 in pest control. Eating and drinking outside is likely to further exacerbate this problem - there is already litter on the grass every weekend from the coffee and beer stall. Is the beer stall even legal? Seems as they have no license??

Additional Points

Wildlife

1. We have great wildlife in the area including bats, foxes, parakeets, woodpeckers, squirrels etc. We are concerned that the proposed plans will result in eradication of their habitat, especially with lighting which will disturb bats (and residents)

Property Values

1. Many of the residents have purchased properties in Berrylands very recently. A public bar opening a few metres from our back fences is sure to negatively affect the property value at an already uncertain time.

Thankyou for your consideration

--

Regards,

David Belle, Macrodesiac Founder

From: James Beresford <
Sent: 26 May 2021 12:34
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: WK/202103155

Good morning.

I would like to strongly object to this application on the grounds of-

Public nuisance

Public safety

Crime and disorder

Child protection

I have already suffered theft from youths walking by and this potential will be massively increased with alcohol present in the location and times intimated.

Thanks

James Beresford

Licence Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

I strongly oppose this application and request you reject it for the following reasons:

The prevention of crime and disorder

- The sale of alcohol/food and provision of entertainment to the public in a venue that is in Metropolitan Open Land will be difficult to police and regulate. There are various points of public access to the site, all across unlit open land.
- Residential properties whose gardens back onto the area or Club House will face a greater risk of vandalism and crime, excessive noise and disturbances.
- I question whether a local football club's management team can safely undertake all the responsibilities of running licenced premises open to all, with extensive opening hours food and entertainment, not least ensuring no underage drinking, no sale or consumption of drugs etc and no disturbance to the surrounding residential area.

Public safety

- Vehicular access to the club is between private houses via an unlit single width lane across open land/ playing fields. The gate to the whole area known as Prince Georges Playing Fields is currently locked when football matches/practices have finished. This application would necessitate leaving the gates open and create greater opportunities for misuse, such as fly tipping, racing motor bikes etc.
- Vehicles will be entering and exiting onto Grand Drive to/from an unmarked turning at night. No doubt taxis will be searching for their passengers late at night too.
- There is a wider issue of the safety of pedestrians, particularly after sunset who will be able to access to the venue from a variety of unlit paths.

The prevention of public nuisance

- Permission for sale of alcohol **to the public**, indoor and our door live and recorded music and films over extensive hours and any day of the week is not appropriate to a local football club sited in Metropolitan Open Land and a surrounding residential area.
- This will be at the expense of local residents whose gardens adjoin the site or who live in the surrounding roads, as well as the many local people wishing to enjoy a quiet walk, who instead can expect an increase in noise, traffic and anti -social behaviour.

- We already support RPVFC by having floodlighting and the general noise of people enjoying football. More widely we contribute to the maintenance of the sports pitches by accommodating the extra traffic and noise generated by car boot sales, special functions and more recently an Antiques Fairs which caused traffic jams on Bushey Road. Additionally, we have supporters and players driving down the adjoining small cul de sacs looking for the club and somewhere to park.
- Far from not wanting to support local businesses, I suggest this would compete with existing bars and restaurants already trying to survive in Raynes Park, Wimbledon Chase and Lower Morden. We are not short of existing suitable venues for public houses: there are currently 2 empty ones in Raynes Park centre (the old Weatherspoons and the Junction Tavern on Approach Road). I have enjoyed the coffee and sandwich van currently on site which operates in daylight hours but would not like to see its scope or opening hours extended – nor do I believe the extent and scope of the application is necessary to the survival of the RPVFC.
- Litter from food and alcohol sales is likely to spread across the open land (where there are limited numbers of bins) and in adjoining public areas. The waste bins at the exit point on Grand Drive already overflow with coffee cups despite there being a large bin at the snack van. As well as being unpleasant and costly it poses a threat to wildlife.

The protection of children from harm

- This is a residential area. The families living in houses near the site will suffer from any outdoor drinking and entertainment/lighting, particularly in the evenings when they are trying to sleep. The current club house has in past years held functions and the volume of music played has been intolerable. I believe the premises were/are not sound proofed nor air conditioned, so party goers liked to have the doors open adding to the noise escaping affecting surrounding houses, including to those not even backing onto the Club.
- The granting of the licence would unfortunately create a risk to children by allowing the purchase and consumption of alcohol within the area of the playing fields, Cannon Hill Common and the Joseph Hood Recreation grounds. These areas all link together and have created a wonderful sense of open space enjoyed by families and are used by many to get to and from local schools on foot, walk the dog, spot wild life etc.

General

The application is not safe, suitable or necessary, for a sports club in Metropolitan Open Space surrounded by housing, in a residential area.

Dawn Bordbar



From: Nasser Bordbar
Sent: 24 May 2021 22:46
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: eloise.baiey@merton.gov.uk; Councillor Hina Bokhari <Hina.Bokhari@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence Application By Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Licence Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

I strongly oppose this application and request Merton Council to reject it in its entirety for the following reasons:

The prevention of crime and disorder

- Opportunity for drunk and disorderly behaviour throughout the day and late into the night in an area of unsupervised open space.
- Based on previous experience with a functions held at the club many years ago, criminal and anti-social behaviour impacting on those with garden adjoining the club area i.e. Urinating against peoples back garden fences, climbing into gardens etc.

Public safety

- The clubhouse is only accessible via an unlit single width lane across open land/ playing fields. This raises issues of the safety of people accessing and using the venue, particularly after sunset.
- Additional traffic will be exiting onto Grand Drive from an unmarked turning.

The prevention of public nuisance

- Permission for continuous music noise every day and every night of the week will adversely impact on the health and wellbeing of local residents.
- Additional traffic and parking. There is limited parking at the venue and there is already pressure on parking in Grand Drive and surrounding roads.
- Litter is likely to spread across the open land (where there are limited numbers of bins) and in adjoining public areas.
- Impact on local wildlife, such as owls and bats that live in the area from noise pollution and rubbish.

The protection of children from harm

- Impact of noise from indoor/outdoor music and drinking is likely to affect young children living in adjoining houses, particularly during the evenings when they are trying to sleep or study.
- Exposure of children to risk of harm while enjoying a walk in the open space and the local woodlands where there is opportunity for adults to purchase and consume alcohol on site.

In short, Raynes Park Vale clubhouse backs onto a residential area where families with their young children enjoy a quiet life. It is also situated in an area of open space enjoyed by many, including families and dog walkers. Such a plan, if approved, will adversely impact local families and their children.

Nasser Bordbar

From: John Bounds [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 May 2021 14:41
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale FC License Application

Dear Sir / Madam,

I'm a local resident who walks my dog over on Cannon Hill Common every day and night, the piece of land that was between the common and the football pitches was what appeared to be waste land. Since the arrival of the coffee van, it has been transformed. The area is now a focal point for local residents to meet for a coffee or something from the fantastic little market that is there at the weekends.

If the license is granted it will enable the area to stay in the vastly improved condition for many reasons:

Previously there was no lighting at night making it a hotspot for local teenagers to smoke drugs.

It was very intimidating as there would be groups of teenagers hanging around, you would see them in the seating area of the football club. They would be playing loud music and drinking.

The football club seems to be really reaching out to the local community and trying to raise its profile.

I have been over to the area during the good weather and it was lovely to see groups of families having picnics on the grass, it would also appear that the adults were infact drinking anyway. The bar would at least be able to provide a certain amount of control over this as people drink wherever they want on the common.

The new decking area is coming along and should be a great asset for people once completed.

Finally, I can't see the football club being open late or at all every day, it not going to be some sort of nightclub attracting young people from all-over London. If you have been past the club you will see the type of people using the area would appear to be dog walkers and families. I doubt that it will become the new local hotspot, it will become somewhere for people meet up and have a drink or two.

I hope you will take my points into consideration.

Kind regards

John

From: John Bounds <
Sent: 25 May 2021 13:38
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale FC License Application

Good afternoon

As I have not heard back from you as per my previous emails.

Accepting this license application helps to prevent public nuisance by encouraging the safe consumption of alcohol in a controlled environment, which is COVID-compliant. Currently, alcohol is consumed freely all over the common and surrounding area without control or safe practice. The success of this application would encourage alcohol to be consumed in one area only and under the control of the licensee.

Also, may I add that as a member of the Raynes Park & West Barnes Residents Association, I was not consulted on their submission and they are not my views or the views of anyone I have spoken to. The issue of protecting the children!! The caretaker of the school site supports the application due to the improvements that have been done to the area.

Thank you for your consideration,

John Bounds

From: caitlin boxwell <
Sent: 05 May 2021 07:43
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: Macrodesiac Podcast <
Subject: Raynes park football club WK/202103135

Dear Merton Council Licensing Committee,

We are writing to oppose the premises license being proposed by Raynes Park Vale Football Club, Grand Drive, Raynes Park SW20 9DZ dated 29 April 2021 (WK/202103135).

Please find our concerns outlined below.

Crime and Disorder

1. We have already had issues with public urination by our fences following events in the football club. With longer opening hours and daily events we are concerned this problem will get worse.
2. Residents have had trespassers in their gardens in the past e.g. children whose parents were socialising in the club scaling their fences to play on their swings and trampolines.
3. Within half a mile of the area where the proposed public bar will be there were 37 crimes reported of a violent or sexual nature (source <https://www.streetcheck.co.uk/crime/sw209db/2020/11>). We are concerned that having a public bar in the area will lead to further crimes of this nature.

Public Nuisance

1. Pre-covid restrictions, noise from functions in the football club late at night have already caused disturbance in the area but as these have been so rare in recent years the residents have put up with it with little complaint. In the past there were functions every weekend which affected the resident's ability to enjoy sitting in their gardens and disturbed their sleep with not only loud music but also shouting / singing when the customers left the premises at the end of the evening. When the residents complained to the police nothing was done about it and the bar managers didn't answer the phone. We are aware from the prospective licensees that they have a capacity of up to 300. This many people leaving at 11pm on weeknights and midnight on weekends is unacceptable, this is especially frustrating to the locals due to the suburban location and will disturb the sleep of the residents many of whom are babies or elderly.
2. The leaseholders of the land and premises have already begun building decking around the side of the football club. Even if this is only used for coffee and eating, without a sound barrier it will still bring great disturbance to the residential properties as it is only 33 steps from the fences. It also interferes with the green space which the properties which back onto the area have paid a premium for.
3. We have already had issues with loud bad language from people coming to watch the football on the weekend. Larger crowds of adults imbibing alcohol is likely to make this problem worse.
4. We are aware that there are plans to have live music outside the venue on the decking. This would cause an unacceptable level of disturbance, preventing us enjoying our gardens and impacting our children's sleep. There are at least 7 children whose bedrooms back onto the area where the decking is being built.
5. Local residents with mental health conditions (e.g. dementia, PTSD, anxiety, autism with sensory overload issues) will be greatly impacted by this noise and they chose to live in this quiet location to ensure they wouldn't be affected by noise pollution.

Protection of Children from Harm

1. In the past when the football club was used frequently for functions there was often broken glass in the grassy area behind our fences. Children and animals returned home with cuts on their feet from this.
2. See Crime and Disorder point 2. In the past adults have let their children leave the club unsupervised and they have entered gardens of the residents. This could result in injury to these children.
3. The decking area that is being built is not separated adequately from the green field, effectively allowing alcohol to be consumed from 10am in an area where children play. In addition the children carrying out their PE lessons in the school playing fields will be witnessing adults drinking from 10am.

Public Safety

1. There is concern from the residents, particularly female residents, about safety walking home in the evening if there are crowds of people who have been drinking all day, particularly given recent events. The area surrounding the venue is poorly lit, increasing the danger if large crowds of men are drinking alcohol there.
2. There is already quite a bad rat problem from the sewers in the area with some residents having paid out in excess of £1000 in pest control. Eating and drinking outside is likely to further exacerbate this problem - there is already litter on the grass every weekend from the coffee and beer stall. Is the beer stall even legal? Seems as they have no license??

Additional Points

Wildlife

1. We have great wildlife in the area including bats, foxes, parakeets, woodpeckers, squirrels etc. We are concerned that the proposed plans will result in eradication of their habitat, especially with lighting which will disturb bats (and residents)

Property Values

1. Many of the residents have purchased properties in Berrylands very recently. A public bar opening a few metres from our back fences is sure to negatively affect the property value at an already uncertain time.

Thankyou for your consideration

Caitlin Boxwell

From: Clare Brierly <
Sent: 19 May 2021 19:18
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Opposing Raynes Park Vale Football Club Late Licence

To whom it may concern,

We are opposed to the application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for a late night alcohol licence for the following reasons:

- Long licensing hours from 10am to very late at night will invite people from a wide area who do not usually frequent Cannon Hill Common. It will encourage people who desire the availability of alcohol throughout the day, therefore, the ambiance and atmosphere of the Common and lives of the local residents will be changed forever.
- There are many **children** who use the Common for recreational purposes and sport and we must consider their wellbeing. As a parent, I would be especially concerned for their safety especially as there are two playgrounds in close proximity to the proposed venue. Adults would be able to carry their alcoholic drinks towards the playgrounds and disperse across the Common away from the venue. Furthermore, it would become unsafe and of a huge concern to allow children (mainly of teenage years) to walk their dogs during the day and into the early evening as the venue is likely to see an increase of adults rather than families with children. The consequences from the premises may also deter children who regularly use the area and the Common from going outside - which is vital for their mental health - as they, themselves, may feel unsafe. The venue and area is likely to become an intimidating place for children.
- Parking will become a huge issue in the surrounding roads. This will also lead to an increase in pollution in the local environment and will effect children's health and the ecology of the Common.
- Noise from the entertainment, the increased number of people and cars at the proposed venue will disturb the local neighbourhood. The incredibly long licensing hours will more than likely lead to a change in people's behaviour, thus leading to crime and disorder both on the Common and in the surrounding residential roads.
- Inevitably, there will be an increase in litter (which is already evident from the existing 'Bar' and weekend stalls) which will encourage rats, foxes and vermin. We have seen big rats regularly in the very close vicinity to the football club.

The above information explains why I think that granting the application will affect all four licensing objections. It will destroy the environment and the lives of the surrounding residents and their children.

Kind Regards, Clare Brierly

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From: david brum <

Sent: 07 May 2021 13:59

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Cc: wb@mertonlibdems.org.uk

Subject: Objection for full licence: Raynes Park Vale Football Club Grand Drive SW20 Application Ref: WK/202103135 Application Dated: 06/05/2021

Dear Sir,

I write to you with respect to the premise's application license submitted by Raynes Park Vale Football Club dated 10/04/2021 and superseded on . I have just received a leaflet through my door notifying me of this application and in view of this application I would like to list my objections to granting a license;

Raynes Park Vale Football Club

1. In the first instance the license hours requested by the club are the same hours that a Public House would apply for. These hours are far in excess of any that a small amateur football club would require. I have lived in this area for some 37 years; in fact, my house virtually backs onto the field where the club is situated. To my knowledge the facilities are used no more than three times a week the main day being a Saturday afternoon when they play their home games there, the training is usually no more than two evenings a week. Recently the club have been using the facilities more, since the lockdown they have placed a portable cafe there for the local walkers to buy tea and coffee and small snacks, this facility has been generally accepted as a nice feature and generally welcomed by the local residents, the club has also introduced a farmers' market which also been generally accepted by the locals. Although these last few weekends I noticed that they were also selling alcohol from the portable cafe and outside beer taps, if they are selling alcohol then I assume that they must already have a license of some kind so why do they need to apply for another license with grossly inflated opening hours. I notice that the club does in fact have an alcohol license, which at this moment of time is allowed for members and for internal use only. They are selling alcohol outside at this moment of time therefore they are in contravention of their present licence. They have also preceded the possibility of gaining the licence by erecting an outside decking area approximately 15 metres long x 5 metres wide, I assume this is an outside sitting area where the general public can sit and drink, this sitting area is immediately adjacent to houses in Berryland which back onto the field.

Access

There are five access point to the clubhouse:

1. a. A private vehicular road runs from Grand Drive with the access gate immediately between two residential houses, the road between these two houses is not a made-up road but private, the main gates are usually locked at night time, how will the clubhouse be made accessible for vehicular traffic without disturbing the immediate residents in the adjoining area.

- b. There are two access points from Bushey Road both are pedestrian gates with the only access to the club across the privately owned playing fields a walk of some quarter of a mile,
- c. One of those gates is immediately adjacent to the rear of the houses that run up the Hill of Grand Drive, pedestrians would have to walk immediately behind these houses on a footpath to get to the clubhouse.
- d. There is a footpath that runs from Whatley Avenue, this pathway runs between the rear of David Lloyds Tennis Club and the school playing fields which lay adjacent to the clubhouse.
- e. There is further access point which comes directly off of Cannon Hill Common, this access is commonly known as Edwins Walk, so named after the person who freely gave his time to lay the pathway and plant it out, this leads directly to the clubhouse.

In affect none of these access points are actually legal footways, they are only there by grace and favour of the present owners of the entire site, who allow the local people to use and walk the entire site.

There are also the areas immediately adjacent to these access points i.e. Heath Drive, Parkway, Whatley Avenue, Bushey Road, Cannon Hill Lane and Grand Drive these are all residential properties and the noise impact would seriously disturb the residents. These access points are a unlight and therefore prone to vandalism, crime, excessive noise and other criminal activities.

Health and Safety

1. The clubhouse is placed at the furthest point away from any access points, there is no lighting on any of the above routes to the clubhouse, and it would be dangerous for any person to try and access the club at night time because of the undulating surfaces to and from the site. The area of the entire playing fields is prone to flooding during adverse weather, therefore dangerous to walk especially at night time.

Environment

1. The club wish to include an entertainment license for the premises along with extended opening hours for functions on Saturdays. This would impact noise wise on the densely populated residential area immediately adjacent to the rear of the clubhouse i.e. Berryland, Cannon Close and Grand Drive, Heath Drive and Parkway. The impact on these properties and residents both with the noise factor and the pedestrian coming and goings to and from the club would cause unnecessary environment and health factors which need to be taken into account. The possible vandalism and damage done to properties with the comings and goings from the venue needs to be seriously accounted for.
2. There is also the aspect of the wildlife that frequent the whole area, it would be damaging to the nesting of birds, the habitat for the Foxes and any other wildlife in

the surrounding area, I am given to understand that the local area is an area dedicated to specific wildlife habitats.

Local Community use

1. There is a school playing field immediately adjacent to the clubhouse used by young male and female school children during the week, the opportunity for the general public to be able to drink alcohol from 8pm in the morning in full view of these children is hardly a sobering message that needs to be sent to these young innocent persons.
2. The playing fields are used throughout the football season which has a high capacity of usage during this time, the indication that there is a bar immediately adjacent to the playing fields would encourage many of these teams to frequent the bar after matches increasing the noise and traffic to the detriment of the local residents, instead of leaving and going to the local public houses in the area.
3. During the summer months there a limited number of car boot sales allowed on the adjacent playing fields with lots of cars and people coming from all different areas of London, once again the knowledge that there is a bar close bar will only encourage people to come and buy a drink and walk back around the sale area creating more noise and excessive litter to a local communal area.

The local area to my knowledge has always had a good relationship with the club and I am sure that all local residents wish them every success in the future.

However, I believe that allowing this license to go through will only cause local unrest by the immediately located residents and that support for the club could well suffer if the license is granted.

What I think is interesting is the fact that the club maintains, it is a local area community-based football club and yet to date they have not contacted the local community about their proposed plans and in fact are conspicuous in their absence with regards to communication with even the closest of their neighbours in Berryland.

The Council website with respect to reasons for non-acceptance of a licence list four criteria's:

- a) Prevention of Crime
- b) Public Safety
- c) Public Nuisance
- d) Protection of Children

In my objection to the granting this license all of the above criteria's have been fulfilled within my objection, plus other resonable objections.

In conclusion I would seriously request that the licensing committee refuse this application for the reasons shown above, but allow them to carry on with their existing licensing as it stands with no outside activities allowed at any time.

Could you please send me an acknowledgement for this email?

Yours Sincerely David Brum

From: Joel Brunger <
Sent: 25 May 2021 21:46
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: REF: WK/202103135

Dear sir or madam,

I am a resident of the Wimbledon chase/Raynes Park/ area, and I write in support of the above application.

Witnessing the development of the RPVFC grounds use over the past months has brought about a positive community spirit, and in a post-COVID time this can only be a positive with a strong sense of togetherness in what has otherwise been a very secluded and divisive time.

Additionally, in a moment where businesses are closing down/struggling, it's encouraging to see a business that is invested in a local community.

The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives are as follows:

- The prevention of crime and disorder: Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other. An unofficial neighbourhood watch is created by the activity of people, which is also recognised in the Secure by Design initiative brought about by official police security guidelines.

The installation of any public lighting would in no way disturb the rear properties of the relatively small percentage of neighbours to Berrylands, owing to the fact that the closest rear window would be beyond 50m from the decking area. This is in stark contrast to the front windows of these same properties being c.7m from street lights.

- Public safety: In addition to the above, any increase in activity in this otherwise dark, secluded area, will bring about a familiarity and highlighting any unsavoury behaviours, which can then sooner be reported to the authorities.

- The prevention of public nuisance: Any increase in parking requirements will unlikely be any further disturbance to the local fields more than the regularly organised car-boot sales, which brings hundreds of people to the same area over the course of one day. The likelihood of this space being used during the winter, in an outdoor situation is low, therefore the earlier darkening times are further mitigated. Furthermore, the increase in activity will prevent unwanted nuisances through the points made above. Any increase in litter can be mitigated through a managed strategy, as can the increase in foot-fall with the use of cameras, which has already been suggested by the operators.

The increase in littering recently has typically been brought about by the easing of lockdown, and the greater amount of people allowed to meet outside, than inside. Once this novelty has passed, this is likely to reduce dramatically as the national restrictions ease.

- The protection of children from harm: I assume the typical measures, rules and

regulations that are required of such an establishment aimed at child protection will be applied. The fields opposite, which I understand is the property of French Lycee, is very infrequently used. Furthermore, a barrier fencing, bushes and other vegetation, as well as cars in an existing car park, are likely to separate any mixing of the two spaces/areas.

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of RPVFC and all users currently and respectfully using the RPVFC, Café bar and Artisan market, as this has brought about a much stronger community spirit.

Thank you,

Kind regards,
Joel Brunger

From: Sally Busby <
Sent: 09 May 2021 15:15
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Licensing Application Ref WK/2021033135

**Application Raynes Park Vale Football Club – Late Night Alcohol Licence
Licensing Application Ref WK/2021033135**

We wish to raise objection to the above mentioned application because granting of the application is likely to cause public nuisance and increase crime and disorder which in turn will impact on safety of the public.

There will inevitably be an increase in car parking and noise and litter. **The noise is particularly concerning because of the proposed late opening hours and for entertainment, food and alcohol sales to be allowed outdoors. This will severely impact the residents of Grand Drive, Heath Drive, Berrylands and Parkway.**

If the Council were to consider granting the application then late opening hours should be restricted to indoors only and then only until 22:00 hours.

We sincerely hope the Council will seriously consider the views of local residents who will be the ones affected by the application.

Mr R & Mrs S Busby

From: Buttaci, Davide <
Sent: 19 May 2021 12:58
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: 'Davide Buttaci'
Subject: Ref WK/202103135 Raynes ark Vale FC License Application

Dear Sir/Madam

I have lived in the Cannon Hill area all my life and it is not often a new initiative captures local spirit for bringing communities together in a safe and controlled area. I am referring to Raynes Park Vale FC and the changes in that open patch of land in the last 12 months. I live on [REDACTED], often use Cannon Hill Common and tend an allotment at the Paddocks.

Before the new facilities arrived, it looked like a caravan site with abandoned lorry containers and a general mess. The land behind the houses of Berrylands was abandoned with grass and weeds/brambles – no trees or shrubs to nurture the local wildlife, and walking the dog through there, you'd be greeted by litter and the occasional syringe. Raynes Park Vale FC itself has, until now, not received any investment to attract the local community – they have been located there +25 years so noise (from late night football matches/training) and light pollution (from the flood lights) must be already acceptable to the local neighbours.

Since mid-2020 we have had:

- Edwins Path and planting of trees/ shrubs
- Fencing of the Football Pitch, general tidy ups, bringing up the appearance of the area
- Tidying of the "lorry container" look with wooden facades and I believe a newly planned decking area
- And of course the coffee bar and various other stalls over the weekends, encouraging people to meet in safety.

I would FAVOUR an alcoholic beverage licence being GRANTED, for the prevention of crime and public disorder, because:

- This previously disused area can be maintained, cultivated and monitored
- The alcohol license comes with conditions which the holders must maintain and control the consumption of alcohol
- I would assume the bar will not be open every evening and any entertainment, music, etc, will be controlled as not to impede too heavily with the lives of the local neighbours
- The local football team has been there for many years and is good for the community on the whole
- The type of customers attracted to the location have been local families – I imagine this to continue
- The use of the site has been of great success to the local community, especially during the pandemic, and is a safe and happy environment which families can enjoy. The same cannot be said for local pubs – The Cavern, Raynes Park tavern and Morden Brook which one would not take family to and generally best avoided. I have often wondered how Raynes Park, a generally affluent area, has the roughest and dirtiest pubs in London.

I would encourage the council to grant the alcohol license to help the success of Raynes Park Vale FC and bring the Cannon Hill/Raynes Park community closer together.

Regards Davide Buttaci

From: Catherine Mary Calnan <
Sent: 26 May 2021 22:19
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: WK/202103135

From: Michael and Catherine Calnan

We are **opposed** to the application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for a licence to sell alcohol, both on and off the premises, from

10 am until very late at night, on seven days a week for the following reasons:

The prevention of crime and disorder: It will encourage those people who desire/need alcohol and who come from places far beyond Raynes Park and Cannon Hill Common to frequent the area. The local area has a good record when it comes to the prevention of crime and disorder. These plans will put everything in jeopardy. It is one thing keeping order within the four walls of a pub and its garden but to keep surveillance across parts of the Common is quite another matter.

The prevention of public nuisance: Inevitably people will 'spill out' from the club house surrounds. In close proximity to RPVFC are playgrounds for young children. Their health and safety must be taken into consideration.

Parking: already an increasing problem will be exacerbated in the roads leading to the Common. Rates of Pollution will soar. This is detrimental to the health of the Community. An increase in litter from overflowing bins and rats has already been observed. This will get much worse.

Noise: not only from an increase in numbers of people and their cars but also the entertainment proposed. Live and recorded music and films, both indoors and outdoors, from 11 am until late at night will again have a detrimental affect on the health of the Community.

The protection of children from harm: There is much anxiety among parents and grandparents for the safety of children. Already there is increasing concern over dog theft. Youngsters need to walk their dogs in safety. They need the exercise for their well being and mental health, particularly in the unprecedented times of Covid. With people frequenting the Common who desire/need alcohol, it will become an unsafe, intimidating place. The safety of children is paramount.

These points say why the granting of the application will affect the licensing objections. It is imperative that everything possible is done to prevent the application.

Michael and Catherine Calnan

From: Freddie Chalke <
Sent: 25 May 2021 08:01
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale Football Club late night alcohol license application - objection

Dear Merton Licensing Team,

I am writing to object to the application for a late night alcohol licence by Raynes Park Vale Football Club (ref: WK/2021003135).

The proposed late operating hours (open until at least midnight every day) and operations such as live music/cinema would lead to increased noise and antisocial behaviour (in a currently tranquil park) having a negative impact for the local residents and wildlife.

Kind regards,
Freddie Chalke

From: Steve Childs <
Sent: 24 May 2021 18:11
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application WK/202103135

We are writing to support the above application. Raynes Park Vale Football Club has been a centre for the local community for many years but recently a lot of hard work has obviously taken place to increase sponsorship, further raise the status of the club in the local area and to improve the amenities to provide a local hub for the community to access. So far this has been a considerable success, particularly during the pandemic where it has provided outside refreshments that have enabled local residents to meet according to the guidelines and engage in social interaction that may not have been available elsewhere. We see the proposed changes as increasing these opportunities whilst also ensuring more revenue for the club so that it can continue to improve its offer to the local community.

We understand that comments on the application must address the issues of preventing crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of a public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. Prior to the recent changes that have seen increased footfall in the area this zone was usually left entirely unsupervised in the evenings apart from when matches or training were taking place. This meant that some young people would congregate there and some would be tempted into anti-social activity such as graffiti, drinking alcohol and drug-taking. With more people using the area this has been much reduced both by the deterrent effect of having the area more closely supervised and the fact that the local community is buying-in to the hub as a positive enhancement for the area. Increasing the hours of supervision and increasing the offer for entertainment and refreshments will, in our view, only serve to make the area safer for all concerned and help prevent vulnerable children from being tempted into behaviours that may have long-term detrimental consequences on their quality of life.

We would therefore like to support the application.

Yours sincerely
Steve and Jacqui Childs

From: Martina Collett-Creedy
Sent: 18 May 2021 18:46
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Raynes Park Vale Football Club WK/2021033135

Dear Sir/Madam

I have lived in *****, Raynes Park for over 25 years and it has always been very peaceful, tranquil and a safe and secure place to live. The licence would impact the quality of my life and of my neighbours.

Recently I have found out that Raynes Park Vale Football Club are making an application for a late night alcohol licence.

I am very unhappy to hear this and would like to object to this application.

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

I am very concerned about customers being drunk or under the influence of drugs. This can result in theft, conflict, violence and anti-social behaviour. Alcohol can be a significant contributory factor to levels of crime and disorder in an area. There could be disorder from people entering and leaving the premises. I am also concerned about people drinking in the nearby streets leading to antisocial behaviour and disorder and increased levels of crime in our quiet neighbourhood. I am also concerned about security in and around the premises and if there will be people managing the entrance and exits. Also will there be CCTV?.

Public Safety

My concerns are overcrowding. Also how glasses and bottles will be disposed and that increased litter could occur and broken glass in the surrounding areas affecting the safety of the public and our pets and other animals.

Prevention of public nuisance

Noise really travels and especially at night. I am concerned about public nuisance and noise in a very quiet and peaceful area. Music, singing and speech noise from within and around the premises. Noise and nuisance from customers arriving and leaving the premises and from external areas such as the decking area. Noise from entertainment providers and large screens. Disturbance from deliveries and waste collections. Litter around the premises and disturbance from lighting. I also feel that there will be an increase of traffic in the area including car parking around the venue and in our residential streets. Also taxis and ubers looking for the venue/ picking up customers in our residential streets leading to more noise and pollution too.

Protection of children from harm

I am concerned about underage drinking and young children accessing a licenced premises. Also the possibility of access to adult entertainment and adult films.

I am happy that we have a lovely coffee facility and mini Sunday farmers market at the Raynes Park Vale Football club site.

Thank you in advance for reading my concerns and objections.

Martina Collett-Creedy

From: Claire Crowther <
Sent: 24 May 2021 10:24
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Objecting to application WK/2021033135

To whom it may concern,

I would like to object to the licensing application for Raynes Park Vale Football Club to host late night events.

We back onto the grounds and this would really disrupt so many things for us.

We live at:

Mr and Mrs Crowther

Our concerns are:

Crime and disorder
Public safety
Prevention of public nuisance
Protection of children from harm

The noise is a big factor, we have 3 children 5 and under and we chose to live here for a peaceful outlook and area as it backs onto a field, not a party venue with people being very noisy and drinking and potentially trouble being caused at the end of the night, crime being caused. It's just not something we want and strongly object to it.

Thank you
Claire Crowther

From: Jerry Cuthbert <
Sent: 23 May 2021 14:58
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence Application WK/202103135

From: Jeremy Cuthbert,

To:
Licensing Section,
London Borough of Merton,
14th Floor, Civic Centre,
London Road, Morden,
Surrey, SM4 5DX

Dear Sir/Madam,

Licence Application WK/202103135

I object to the above licence application for the following reasons:

Prevention of Public Nuisance - Noise

Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC) is located within an area designated both as Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and also a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). The premises are also located close to several residential streets.

The premises already have an alcohol licence for members and guests but has stringent conditions for the prevention of noise breakout and disturbance from inside the premises.

These existing conditions are wholly appropriate, due to the sensitivity of its location as noted above.

However, the new application is effectively to operate a "late night pub", with the additional freedom to have live music and other forms of entertainment outside, seven days a week. This would be completely contrary to the principles already established by the existing licence conditions.

Whilst I do not live in close proximity to the football club, the noise from matches and training sessions is clearly audible in my property, so it is obvious that any additional noise would be a public nuisance to my local community.

Also, many residents close to RPVFC are concerned about the noise from vehicles being driven to and from the premises late into the night. This risk of nuisance not only affect those living close to the Grand Drive entrance but also those living close to other pedestrian access points, including Heath Drive, Parkway and Whatley Avenue.

Prevention of Public Nuisance – Non-Compliance with planning regulations

RPVFC has recently begun operating several commercial enterprises, including an open air coffee/snack bar and "artisan markets" on its land. This has resulted in increased litter in the vicinity, including on Cannon Hill Common.

The regularity of these commercial events already far exceeds the limitation or MOL of 14 events per year (and also exceeds the temporary increase, due to Covid-19, to 28 days).

RPVFC is thus already in breach of the planning regulations.

Prevention of Public Nuisance – Light Pollution and Protection of Wildlife

Apart from the floodlighting to the pitch, which is only used during play after dusk, there is very little outside lighting at the premises. In order to facilitate the applicant's envisaged outdoor activities, additional outside lighting would be necessary. This would be an additional disturbance to wildlife within the SINC.

Prevention of Public Nuisance - Public Safety

The premises are not within any enclosed area but are sited within open space, with direct pedestrian access to public footpaths and public parks. The footpaths are also on the London Cycle Network. The paths and park are regularly used by the public, including families, women, children and vulnerable people, for leisure and exercise.

The premises are located down a private driveway, 300 metres from the nearest public highway. It is difficult to envisage that any police patrols would pass that way.

It is therefore difficult to see how RPVFC could control the likelihood of intoxicated patrons causing problems or harm to the public in the vicinity.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Whilst Prince George's Playing Fields is open 24/7 for public use, it is noted that this is private land. As such, vehicular access is currently strictly controlled by means of locked gates, which still allowed pedestrian and cyclist access via the public footpath. It is difficult to see how this control over vehicle access could continue if the proposed licence were granted. There is obviously a far greater risk of trespass, littering, vandalism, abandonment of vehicles and other forms of criminal activity in this large open and unlit areas, if the Playing Field were left open to traffic for long periods, particularly after dark.

I therefore strongly object to this licence application and urge the Licensing Sub-Committee to refuse this application.

Yours faithfully

Jeremy Cuthbert

From: Avril Cuthbert <
Sent: 23 May 2021 20:14
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection Licence Application WK/202103135

I write **to object** to Licence Application WK/202103135 on the following grounds:

- 1. Indoor and outdoor** new licence Exhibition of Films, live music, recorded music, between the **hours of 11.00 – 23.00 hrs seven days a week.**
 - These outdoor activities will be feet away from residential properties backing on to the clubhouse. It will be intolerable for those residents.
 - I live a little distance away from the grounds and as it is I can hear the noise of football matches. Having live and recorded music seven days a week will be intolerable. Particularly, as I among many others suffer with hyper accuses. The agreement to more noise pollution cannot be granted
 - The grounds are private and designated Metropolitan Open Land with a limit on the number of events that can be held. This has to preserved.

- 2. Supply of alcohol on and off the premises from 10.00 a.m to 00:**
 - Off licence comes to mind. This will be very convenient for people to buy alcohol and meet in groups on the open land giving rise to public nuisance and public safety. Families with young children are currently seen enjoying the peace and tranquillity of this designated Metropolitan Open Land.
 - Currently, children are not allowed in view of alcohol being served. How can a pub be allowed to open on public land in sight of children enjoying a quiet stroll. This cannot be allowed.
 - The elderly and vulnerable walk on this land and their needs have to be considered when allowing intoxicating liquor to be served for this length of time, in the open area giving rise to public nuisance and safety. This cannot be allowed.
 - There are plenty of places serving alcohol without bringing it on to an area that cannot monitored would cause public nuisance.

- 3. Whole premises open from 8.00 – 00 hrs.**
 - This could easily become a dumping ground. Currently there are gates to prevent vehicle access to the grounds when there are no activities and particularly after dark. These gates are often locked. The application states 8.00 – 00 Does this mean that the grounds will be open 24/7? If so, then this large area will be open to abuse for all forms of criminal activity. We must prevent crime and disorder.

- There is a public footpath that goes through the grounds giving access to peace and quiet. There is very little space in the area that gives this amenity therefore, the peace and quiet in this world of noise has to be maintained.
- It is a haven for wildlife including the Purple Salsify which grows wild within feet of the club house. There is decking already being built which threatens the wild flowers and this will only add to added footfall in the surrounding area. This must be preserved.

Avril Cuthbert

From: Moira Deveson <
Sent: 25 May 2021 09:08
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Ref: WK/202103135

Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

I wish to support my husband's letter which I reproduce below.

The football club does not need to expand to become an entertainment venue. The area is too close to housing for outdoor entertainment, which would amount to a major and irreversible change of use.

Evening drinking can always lead to trouble of many kinds, including criminal and disorderly behaviour.

Quiet spaces in London are under relentless pressure. Cannon Hill Common is a true haven of wildlife, protected from noise and light pollution partly by the playing fields surrounding and adjoining it. Children and young people need to grow up with that available to them. There are already hundreds of places where they can encounter noisy entertainment. They need to have the alternative, necessary for their full and rounded development in a stressful era.

Moira Deveson

I write to enter a strong protest against the proposal for a late night alcohol licence and for the use of live and recorded music and films until late at night.

I like the club as a football club, and I've enjoyed watching RPVFC games at the ground with our young grandson. The sound of supporters shouting on Saturday afternoons and of players at evening practice is fine. I have no objection to a football club with indoor provision for the entertainment of members.

But this new proposal will totally alter the nature of what's there now. It will ruin the usually quiet atmosphere of the Prince George's Playing Fields. There will be a huge increase in car parking, litter and above all, noise. The quality of life in the neighbourhood will be severely damaged.

Prevention of crime and disorder

There is always a huge potential for disorder when alcohol is served late at night. We do not wish to have further episodes of damage to cars, gardens, theft, vandalism and more rubbish left in the area. This is not a town centre, and there are no regular police patrols. We and our neighbours have deliberately chosen to live in a quiet suburb. It's not suited for what will amount to an inner-city cinema, music venue and pub.

Public safety

No explanation is given of proposed access routes. There is currently no lighting except from Grand Drive. Access from elsewhere on foot – e.g. from Bushey Road, Heath Drive or Whatley Avenue - would present dangers to all concerned, especially after alcohol has been drunk.

Does the club intend to provide lighting or to switch on the floodlights? This would raise serious concerns about light pollution, and would present a challenge for local homes and to local wildlife. The adjoining Cannon Hill Common is a wildlife haven. Four sorts of bat live on the Common: Soprano and Common pipistrelles, Daubenton's and Leisler's bats. In the daytime they sleep in holes in trees and at dusk in summer they fly hunting insects. Little owls and Tawny owls nest near the football club. Extra noise and above all extra light pollution will be to the detriment of these species. Merton claims to be a green borough committed to caring for the local environment. This development is quite contrary to such aims.

Increased traffic on Bushey Road or Grand Drive will present a problem. It already does for the car boot sales. At night, after dark, with drink on sale, it will surely become worse.

The present set-up with the pop-up stalls has already contributed to increased and unwelcome footfall and litter on the Common. The bins are frequently full to overflowing, and rats are in evidence on the site.

Most of those who promote this business enterprise on social networks will not live in sight of or earshot of the area in question. They will not suffer the regular and unavoidable intrusion into their private lives.

I write this on the night of Saturday May 22nd, having enjoyed a long quiet walk that came back past the football club. Birds were calling in the trees by Edwin's Walk; there was an air of calm and beauty, of closeness to the natural world. The sky was darkening gradually and the wind was soft in the trees. We know that green spaces are needed for the growth of composure and tranquillity of feeling; so are natural sounds and silences and slow changes in light and shadow. The intrusion of amplified electronic sound and stark artificial light is the opposite of this. Our society desperately needs more spaces that promote serenity, not commercially-driven noise and commotion. It needs a closer relation to the natural world, not

yet another artificial separation from it.

Public nuisance

When the indoor licence was granted, the potential impact on residents was recognised when the restrictions below were included in the Licence.

Annex 2: Conditions consistent with the Club Operating Schedule

1. All doors and windows apart from access and egress are kept shut whilst regulated entertainment is being provided at the premises. 2. While regulated entertainment is provided, patrols will take place on an hourly basis at the perimeter of the property to ensure that there is no sound escape. Any sound escape from the property shall be addressed immediately and reduced to a level that is not audible at the nearest residential property. After 11pm these patrols shall also address noisy patrons outside the premises. A logbook is to be kept to record such patrols and incidents and shall be made available for inspection by Council Officers.

3. Clear signs that are a minimum A4 size are placed at exit points stating "This is a residential area please leave quietly".

The new proposals mark a huge change. Granting this licence will turn the football ground area into a noisy open-air pub/party-venue/outdoor cinema in a neighbourhood into which people move to enjoy the peace and quiet of near green spaces.

Even if alcohol is not served after 11pm, or midnight, it's inevitable that the noise will continue long after this time.

Protection of children from harm

The proposals would adversely affect the sleep of young children and adults who have to get up for school, or who may be trying to study from home.

Selling alcohol to the public is notorious for attracting groups of underage drinkers. Some of these are already present on the common and field. Vetting members of a club for indoor drinking is all right in theory, but in practice there is a distinct danger of unknown 18 year-olds (complete with fake ID) attending, who then pass on the alcohol to younger friends.

I don't imagine parents of children at the French Lycée will be happy with the presence of drinkers at a bar next to classes on the immediately adjoining sports field.

For all these reasons, I oppose the application.

From: Tom Deveson <
Sent: 23 May 2021 19:23
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Ref: WK/202103135

Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

I write to enter a strong protest against the proposal for a late night alcohol licence and for the use of live and recorded music and films until late at night.

I like the club as a football club, and I've enjoyed watching RPVFC games at the ground with our young grandson. The sound of supporters shouting on Saturday afternoons and of players at evening practice is fine. I have no objection to a football club with indoor provision for the entertainment of members.

But this new proposal will totally alter the nature of what's there now. It will ruin the usually quiet atmosphere of the Prince George's Playing Fields. There will be a huge increase in car parking, litter and above all, noise. The quality of life in the neighbourhood will be severely damaged.

Prevention of crime and disorder

There is always a huge potential for disorder when alcohol is served late at night. We do not wish to have further episodes of damage to cars, gardens, theft, vandalism and more rubbish left in the area. This is not a town centre, and there are no regular police patrols. We and our neighbours have deliberately chosen to live in a quiet suburb. It's not suited for what will amount to an inner-city cinema, music venue and pub.

Public safety

No explanation is given of proposed access routes. There is currently no lighting except from Grand Drive. Access from elsewhere on foot – e.g. from Bushey Road, Heath Drive or Whatley Avenue - would present dangers to all concerned, especially after alcohol has been drunk.

Does the club intend to provide lighting or to switch on the floodlights? This would raise serious concerns about light pollution, and would present a challenge for local homes and to local wildlife. The adjoining Cannon Hill Common is a wildlife haven. Four sorts of bat live on the Common: Soprano and Common pipistrelles, Daubenton's and Leisler's bats. In the daytime they sleep in holes in trees and at dusk in summer they fly hunting insects. Little owls and Tawny owls nest near the football club. Extra noise and above all extra light pollution will be to the detriment of these species. Merton claims to be a green borough committed to caring for the local environment. This development is quite contrary to such aims.

Increased traffic on Bushey Road or Grand Drive will present a problem. It already does for the car boot sales. At night, after dark, with drink on sale, it will surely become worse.

The present set-up with the pop-up stalls has already contributed to increased and unwelcome footfall and litter on the Common. The bins are frequently full to overflowing, and rats are in evidence on the site.

Most of those who promote this business enterprise on social networks will not live in sight of or earshot of the area in question. They will not suffer the regular and unavoidable intrusion into their private lives.

I write this on the night of Saturday May 22nd, having enjoyed a long quiet walk that came back past the football club. Birds were calling in the trees by Edwin's Walk; there was an air of calm and beauty, of closeness to the natural world. The sky was darkening gradually and the wind was soft in the trees. We know that green spaces are needed for the growth of composure and tranquillity of feeling; so are natural sounds and silences and slow changes in light and shadow. The intrusion of amplified electronic sound and stark artificial light is the opposite of this. Our society desperately needs more spaces that promote serenity, not commercially-driven noise and commotion. It needs a closer relation to the natural world, not yet another artificial separation from it.

Public nuisance

When the indoor licence was granted, the potential impact on residents was recognised when the restrictions below were included in the Licence.

Annex 2: Conditions consistent with the Club Operating Schedule

1. All doors and windows apart from access and egress are kept shut whilst regulated entertainment is being provided at the premises. 2. While regulated entertainment is provided, patrols will take place on an hourly basis at the perimeter of the property to ensure

that there is no sound escape. Any sound escape from the property shall be addressed immediately and reduced to a level that is not audible at the nearest residential property. After 11pm these patrols shall also address noisy patrons outside the premises. A logbook is to be kept to record such patrols and incidents and shall be made available for inspection by Council Officers.

3. Clear signs that are a minimum A4 size are placed at exit points stating "This is a residential area please leave quietly".

The new proposals mark a huge change. Granting this licence will turn the football ground area into a noisy open-air pub/party-venue/outdoor cinema in a neighbourhood into which people move to enjoy the peace and quiet of near green spaces.

Even if alcohol is not served after 11pm, or midnight, it's inevitable that the noise will continue long after this time.

Protection of children from harm

The proposals would adversely affect the sleep of young children and adults who have to get up for school, or who may be trying to study from home.

Selling alcohol to the public is notorious for attracting groups of underage drinkers. Some of these are already present on the common and field. Vetting members of a club for indoor drinking is all right in theory, but in practice there is a distinct danger of unknown 18 year-olds (complete with fake ID) attending, who then pass on the alcohol to younger friends.

I don't imagine parents of children at the French Lycée will be happy with the presence of drinkers at a bar next to classes on the immediately adjoining sports field.

For all these reasons, I oppose the application.

Tom Deveson

From: Nathan Dimmock <
Sent: 16 May 2021 20:33
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: hina.bokari@merton.gov.uk;
Subject: Licensing Application WK/202103135

FAO: Merton Council Licensing Department

Dear Sir/Madam

We are writing to you regarding the application for a new premises licence at Raynes Park Vale Football Club. Our family home backs onto the football club and we are concerned that some of the requested permissions will cause a public nuisance and harm to the children who live in the adjacent properties.

Having previously lived opposite a public house in central London, we are aware that a well managed and run licensed establishment with properly sound proofed premises are unlikely to cause significant noise pollution. However in our experience, patrons **outside** the public house can be a significant noise nuisance, especially if there are arguments or discord within the group. People can also be very inconsiderate in their slamming of car doors, revving of engines and use horns as people are picked up or signal their departure.

With regard to the application we kindly request that the Council impose sufficient conditions on the application to ensure that the risk of public nuisance is kept low, and that the noise does not prevent children from being able to get to sleep at night, which would harm their development and impair their performance in examinations. We ask that the conditions include:

1. The licensed building be adequately sound proofed to ensure music playing inside the building cannot be heard in the residential gardens adjacent to the club, including ours.
2. The licensed building be adequately air conditioned and that all windows are kept closed to ensure the integrity of that sound proofing, and minimise the need for patrons to congregate outside.
3. That patrons not be allowed to consume alcohol or congregate in groups of more than 2 people outside after 9:30pm and that the premises employ bouncers or other qualified people to enforce this. Enforcement must include the car park and any adjacent open land which is accessible to the premises but may not be formally part of it.
4. That due consideration be given to the design of any formal outside space (e.g. smoking area or terrace) as to minimise the impact of noise on the residential neighbours when outside activities are permitted.
5. Outdoor music and exhibition of film not be permitted after 9:30pm.
6. A taxi/pick up waiting area be created away from the premises, closer to the main road to minimise the number of people congregating close to the premises after closing time.

We are particularly concerned with the request for outdoor music and film after 9:30pm. Due to the open nature of the land there is no natural sound barrier between our property and the football club, something which is very apparent whenever a football match is in process and

the shouts of the players are clearly audible through any open windows. The houses surrounding the club are all family homes, many occupied by children. Any disturbance after 9:30pm which prevents them from sleeping properly will harm their development and affect their performance in critical examinations. A noisy film or band playing the night before a child's grammar school entrance examination may significantly alter the course of their academic career and life opportunities. While modern double glazing can offer very good sound proofing, it can only be effective if the windows are sealed tight shut which is not possible on a hot summer's night during exam season, as we have found whenever our neighbours decide to have a summer garden party which extends into the evening. We strongly object to any sort of outside activity being permitted after 9:30pm.

Yours faithfully,

Nathan and Rosemary Dimmock

From: Fiona Doyle <
Sent: 23 May 2021 18:13
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>; Licensing
<Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Planning Reference WK/202103135

Dear Merton Council,

I write in favour of the newly proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale football club. I believe this is a great addition to the area. Many of us have been enjoying the facilities here already.

The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows: - The prevention of crime and disorder: Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other. - Public safety: Rules would be adhered to as per licence and users would sign off an agreement when using eg membership. Rules & Regs to be displayed and if issues arises those persons could be banned. - The prevention of public nuisance: Signage displayed to be adhered to eg unreasonable noise and users would be asked to respect local neighbours and prevent the Rpvfc losing their licence. - The protection of children from harm: Safety measures would be in place as for all licences facilities and rules and regs would cover safety aspects. This would only be used by children who are supervised by responsible persons.

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of Rpvfc and all users currently and respectfully using the Rpvfc, Café bar and Artisan market.

Thank you

Fiona Doyle

From: Zac Ellis <
Sent: 18 May 2021 11:50
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>; Licensing
<Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Objection - Raynes park vale FC

I wish to express my objection to Raynes Park Vale FC selling alcohol to the public past 9pm.

As my house backs on to Prince Georges playing field, I would be directly affected by the noise caused by people visiting the premises.

I have two young children (4 & 7), so my objection is due to late night noise and drunken behaviour, possible crime and disorder and the resulting disturbance it would cause to my children's sleep.

I would object to granting the club a licence to sell alcohol to the public past 9pm on any day as the likelihood of my family experiencing some kind of disturbance on a regular basis is very high.

Yours sincerely

Zac Ellis

From: The Farrells
Sent: 24 May 2021 20:14
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Licencing ref: WK/202103135

I would like to add my support to the above licencing application.

The Raynes Park Vale Football club has, with voluntary workers, greatly enhanced the area external to their clubhouse from what used to be an area of dereliction. In doing so there is now an increased footfall by local residents on the pathway linking Canon Hill Common and the Prince George Playing fields.

This is a major contribution to the prevention of undesirable behaviour.

The Club I commend for what they have done so far in this project.

Yours Faithfully
Martin Farrell

From: Mark Ferrari
Sent: 26 May 2021 12:46
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application WK/202103135

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to register my support for the above licensing application.

The area surrounding the Raynes Park Vale clubhouse has been the target of vandals, drug-taking, fly-tipping and even physical threats against the public. I believe that this licence, as well as providing a much-needed boost to the local economy and the community-based football club itself will also benefit the area with greater presence at the club acting as a valuable deterrent against anti-social behaviour. Walkers and young people will also be safer due to the presence of people in the area.

I think that this is an excellent example of a local community organisation bringing real and direct benefit to a neglected part of the neighbourhood.

Kind Regards,

Mark Ferrari

-----Original Message-----

From: david ferrari

Sent: 20 May 2021 08:16

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Subject: application reference no. WK/202103135

To whom it may concern :

I would like to support the application for licence . Having used the area for many years which links Raynes Park with Cannon Hill it is great to see a further boost to the area creating a welcoming communal space for a wide range of local people , from families to dog walkers and runners . The application will help to enhance the area and create a focal point that doesn't presently exist in this area of Grand Drive away from Raynes Park station .I applaud the improvements made to and around the Raynes Park Vale clubhouse already and the licence request will help to improve this communal area further.

I give it my full support

Kind regards

David Ferrari

From: J Filippusson
Sent: 24 May 2021 12:47
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re Application; Raynes Park Vale Football Club WK/202103125

Re: application WK/202103135

Dear Merton

I wish to object to the above application for New Premises Licence.

My family and I are local residents and frequent users of the Playing fields and adjoining woodland separating Cannon Hill Common and Prince George's Playing fields. This area is frequented by many local families and has to be protected from the added traffic and noise this license will undoubtedly create.

I understand the Four licensing objectives are: - The prevention of crime and disorder - Public safety - The prevention of public nuisance - The protection of children from harm. The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows: - The prevention of crime and disorder: I think there is no question that there is likely to be further disorder as a result of later licensing hours. Only last week the Old Rutlishians club nearby had to announce that planned screening of a football match had been called off as on a previous night families had to leave the club due to skirmishes and foul language. This is not what we need in the local community where there is literally a footpath passing the outdoor area of the club.

- Public safety: Public safety will be compromised as it is well known that drunken behaviour brings violence and there is increased chance of confrontation between punters and locals enjoying the area. There will be an increase in taxis and public hire vehicles as well as minibuses or coaches attending the narrow access roads conflicting with and pedestrians passing cyclists on the shared cycle path. - The prevention of public nuisance: There will be added noise pollution from live or broadcast music as well as film screening. This is totally unacceptable in an area of unspoilt nature and for local residents. - The protection of children from harm: Noise and inappropriate drunken behaviour is not what children should have to experience while out enjoying the woodlands and sports fields. I for one would no longer want my children to access the woodlands alone should licence be granted. Yours sincerely,

Johann Filippusson

Dear Merton Council Licensing Committee,

We are writing to oppose the premises license being proposed by Raynes Park Vale Football Club, Grand Drive, Raynes Park SW20 9DZ dated 29 April 2021 (WK/202103135).

Please find our concerns outlined below.

Crime and Disorder

1. We have already had issues with public urination by our fences following events in the football club. With longer opening hours and daily events we are concerned this problem will get worse.
2. Residents have had trespassers in their gardens in the past e.g. children whose parents were socialising in the club scaling their fences to play on their swings and trampolines.
3. Within half a mile of the area where the proposed public bar will be there were 37 crimes reported of a violent or sexual nature (source <https://www.streetcheck.co.uk/crime/sw209db/2020/11>). We are concerned that having a public bar in the area will lead to further crimes of this nature.

Public Nuisance

1. Pre-covid restrictions, noise from functions in the football club late at night have already caused disturbance in the area but as these have been so rare in recent years the residents have put up with it with little complaint. In the past there were functions every weekend which affected the resident's ability to enjoy sitting in their gardens and disturbed their sleep with not only loud music but also shouting / singing when the customers left the premises at the end of the evening. When the residents complained to the police nothing was done about it and the bar managers didn't answer the phone. We are aware from the prospective licensees that they have a capacity of up to 300. This many people leaving at 11pm on weeknights and midnight on weekends is unacceptable, this is especially frustrating to the locals due to the suburban location and will disturb the sleep of the residents many of whom are babies or elderly.
2. The leaseholders of the land and premises have already begun building decking around the side of the football club. Even if this is only used for coffee and eating, without a sound barrier it will still bring great disturbance to the residential properties as it is only 33 steps from the fences. It also interferes with the green space which the properties which back onto the area have paid a premium for.
3. We have already had issues with loud bad language from people coming to watch the football on the weekend. Larger crowds of adults imbibing alcohol is likely to make this problem worse.
4. We are aware that there are plans to have live music outside the venue on the decking. This would cause an unacceptable level of disturbance, preventing us enjoying our gardens and impacting our children's sleep. There are at least 7 children whose bedrooms back onto the area where the decking is being built.
5. Local residents with mental health conditions (e.g. dementia, PTSD, anxiety, autism with sensory overload issues) will be greatly impacted by this noise and they chose to live in this quiet location to ensure they wouldn't be affected by noise pollution.

Protection of Children from Harm

1. In the past when the football club was used frequently for functions there was often broken glass in the grassy area behind our fences. Children and animals returned home with cuts on their feet from this.

2. See Crime and Disorder point 2. In the past adults have let their children leave the club unsupervised and they have entered gardens of the residents. This could result in injury to these children.

3. The decking area that is being built is not separated adequately from the green field, effectively allowing alcohol to be consumed from 10am in an area where children play. In addition the children carrying out their PE lessons in the school playing fields will be witnessing adults drinking from 10am.

Public Safety

1. There is concern from the residents, particularly female residents, about safety walking home in the evening if there are crowds of people who have been drinking all day, particularly given recent events. The area surrounding the venue is poorly lit, increasing the danger if large crowds of men are drinking alcohol there.

2. There is already quite a bad rat problem from the sewers in the area with some residents having paid out in excess of £1000 in pest control. Eating and drinking outside is likely to further exacerbate this problem.

Additional Points

Wildlife

1. We have great wildlife in the area including bats, foxes, parakeets, woodpeckers, squirrels etc. We are concerned that the proposed plans will result in eradication of their habitat.

Property Values

1. Many of the residents have purchased properties in Berrylands very recently. A public bar opening a few metres from our back fences is sure to negatively affect the property value at an already uncertain time.

Regards,

Mr and Mrs Flowers

██████████

From: Rachel Fowler
Sent: 26 May 2021 16:21
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Application WK/202103135

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of the application made by Raynes Park Vale FC for the license extension.

The team have turned the site from an essentially unused land into a thriving market at weekends and a hugely popular coffee spot for walkers through the week. The plans they have will transform the area into a fantastic family friendly space and bring real value to the local neighbourhood. s

A site like this is sorely needed in the area and I urge you to look favourably on their application.

Kind regards

Rachel Fowler

From: Barbara Gardener <
Sent: 10 May 2021 12:58
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>;
Subject: Re: Objection to Raynes Park Vale Licence Application

Objection to Raynes Park Vale Licence Application

I believe it will interfere significantly with my families right to enjoy our home. 30 years ago there was antisocial behaviour, we won't be able to enjoy our garden in the summer, rubbish will be everywhere, cans, bad language, I am very anxious about having to live with all the going on and the safety of our home. There was always drunken and rowdy behaviour.

We can not control people's mannerism and behaviours so if there was to be a disturbance we would prefer not to engage in an exchange of words with people who may be intoxicated. All we ask is for some sort of consideration to the families who's houses will be directly behind this function that will be affected by the noise disturbance. We feel that it is not right to allow this premises to be turned into a party scene.

Please reconsider the approval of this license application.

Thank you

Mr & Mrs Gardener

On 10 May 2021, at 07:52, Dawn <> wrote:

Objection to Raynes Park Vale Licence Application

I'm sure it is obvious but the email below is an objection to the above licence application.

If you cannot accept it in it's current form please let Barbara Gardener know directly

Regards
Dawn Bordbar

From: M Gibril <
Sent: 13 May 2021 16:42
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Premises licence Application Raynes park vale

Hi ,
My name is Mohammed GIBRIL

I object to the application the hours is unsuitable for the location which adjoins private gardens in what is a residential area and I believe late nights drinking and food service would impact negatively on the quality of those in the vicinity .

From: Siobhan Kelly <
Sent: 25 May 2021 10:36
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Representation regarding application WK/202103135
Dear Merton Local Planning Authority

I write in favour of the newly proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale football club.

I have been a local resident and a loving user of this area for over 5 years and my husband's family have lived in Thai area for over 40 years and on hearing/seeing the developing RPVFC area near Cannon Hill Common, my family and friends are really excited especially in the light of Covid and business's sadly closing.

I believe this is a great addition to the area, for locals mostly and the opportunity to join as a member too.

It has been one of the few highlights in a very dull period during the winter lockdown of 2020/2021 and I really hope it isn't taken away by the misguided fears of NIMBYism.

The Four licensing objectives are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows:

- The prevention of crime and disorder:

Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other.

- Public safety:

Rules would be adhered to as per licence and users would sign off an agreement when using eg membership. Rules & Regs to be displayed and if issues arise those persons could be banned.

- The prevention of public nuisance:

Signage displayed to be adhered to eg unreasonable noise and users would be asked to respect local neighbours and prevent the Rpvfc losing their licence.

- The protection of children from harm:

Safety measures would be in place as for all licences facilities and rules and regs would cover safety aspects. This would only be used by children who are supervised by responsible persons.

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of RPVFC and all users currently and respectfully using the RPVFC, Café bar and Artisan market.

Thank you
Siobhan Gilley MEng MICE

From: Kanav Gupta <
Sent: 25 May 2021 18:26
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: reference number: WK/202103135
Importance: High

Dear sir or madam,

I am a resident of the Wimbledon chase/Raynes Park/ area (my address is), and I write in support of the above application.

Witnessing the development of the RPVFC grounds use over the past months has brought about a positive community spirit, and in a post-COVID time this can only be a positive with a strong sense of togetherness in what has otherwise been a very secluded and divisive time.

Additionally, in a moment where businesses are closing down/struggling, it's encouraging to see a business that is invested in a local community.

The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives are as follows:

- **The prevention of crime and disorder:** Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other. An unofficial neighbourhood watch is created by the activity of people, which is also recognised in the Secure by Design initiative brought about by official police security guidelines.

The installation of any public lighting would in no way disturb the rear properties of the relatively small percentage of neighbours to Berrylands, owing to the fact that the closest rear window would be beyond 50m from the decking area. This is in stark contrast to the front windows of these same properties being c.7m from street lights.

- **Public safety:** In addition to the above, any increase in activity in this otherwise dark, secluded area, will bring about a familiarity and highlighting any unsavoury behaviours, which can then sooner be reported to the authorities.
- **The prevention of public nuisance:** Any increase in parking requirements will unlikely be any further disturbance to the local fields more than the regularly organised car-boot sales, which brings hundreds of people to the same area over the course of one day. The likelihood of this space being used during the winter, in an outdoor situation is low, therefore the earlier darkening times are further mitigated.

Furthermore, the increase in activity will prevent unwanted nuisances through the points made above. Any increase in litter can be mitigated through a managed strategy, as can the increase in foot-fall with the use of cameras, which has already been suggested by the operators.

The increase in littering recently has typically been brought about by the easing of lockdown, and the greater amount of people allowed to meet outside, than inside. Once this novelty has passed, this is likely to reduce dramatically as the national restrictions ease.

- **The protection of children from harm:** I assume the typical measures, rules and regulations that are required of such an establishment aimed at child protection will be applied. The fields opposite, which I understand is the property of French Lycee, is very infrequently used. Furthermore, a barrier fencing, bushes and other vegetation, as well as cars in an existing car park, are likely to separate any mixing of the two spaces/areas.

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of RPVFC and all users currently and respectfully using the RPVFC, Café bar and Artisan market, as this has brought about a much stronger community spirit.

Thank you,

Kind regards,

Kanav Gupta ARB
Director
KANAVGUPTA Ltd.

10 May 2021

Dear Licensing Team

In April, I spotted a licensing application notice beside Raynes Park Vale Football Club. It was then replaced by a different application (WK/202103135):



The application notice is fixed on the telegraph pole in the centre of the photo – difficult to access with the market stalls in front – you can just see the tiny blue rectangle.

I worry that many people who may be affected if the licence were granted will not have spotted the notice. Surely copies should be displayed on public land, e.g. in Berrylands, Cannon Close and Grand Drive where those most likely to be affected live, rather than just on privately owned land? If this is the case, the application should not be decided until notices have been displayed clearly in local streets for the statutory time.

Section 10.1 of Merton council's Licensing Policies 2021-2026 states:

"National guidance places an expectation upon applicants to give thorough consideration to the local area when making applications."

The applicant does not seem to have done this at all.

I object to this application on the following grounds:

1. Raynes Park Vale Football Club is on Prince George's Playing Field, which is Metropolitan Open Land and a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation;
2. Granting this licence would cause a public nuisance by differing from the conditions agreed in the football club's licence;
3. Granting this licence would be counter to the need to protect children from harm;

4. Granting this licence will cause a public nuisance because customers will park on PGPF and in nearby residential streets and there is potential for crime and disorder.

1) Metropolitan Open Land

Prince George's Playing Fields (PGPF) is Metropolitan Open Land so it should be preserved as green space for relaxation and sporting use. The land is privately owned and Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC) lease a part of it. The number of commercial events on PGPF is limited to preserve the visual amenities of the site and the nature conservation quality of the site. This is stated in

https://www.merton.gov.uk/assets/Documents/0974-prince_georges_playing_fields_sw20.pdf

which includes a map showing the boundaries of the site.

It is also likely that the biodiversity of the area will suffer. PGPF is designated a SINC because of some rare plant species. The advent of the coffee stall and "artisans' markets" has already caused trampling which is likely have a negative impact on the plant species. The part of PGPF nearest to Berrylands beside the decking which is being built, is a meadow area which supports a wide variety of plants and invertebrates. As a result, bats are regularly seen feeding overhead and many bird species visit it, including the Little Owls which have often nested nearby recently. If this licence were granted, the noise and lights will drive such species away. While this may not directly be a reason to refuse the application, local residents, who use the area for relaxation and to de-stress, will be negatively impacted by the loss of wildlife, so this is again causing a public nuisance. There is published scientific evidence that access to nature is beneficial for mental health and well-being (e.g. <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/thriving-with-nature/guide>) so allowing a "pub" to open in the middle of an important piece of Metropolitan open Land is inappropriate.

Further commercialisation on this site should not be allowed and it is to be hoped that the "artisans' markets" which started during the pandemic will soon cease – their numbers being subject to the limitations on commercial events (see above).

2) Club or pub – a public nuisance?

RPVFC is listed in the council's club register (licence LN/00000/1087) and, although alcohol may be served from 11:00 - 23:00 with music allowed during the same times, there are clear rules to prevent disturbing neighbours:

Premises Opening Hours

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CLUB RULES

Annex 2

Conditions consistent with the Club Operating Schedule

1. All doors and windows apart from access and egress are kept shut whilst regulated entertainment is being provided at the premises.
2. While regulated entertainment is provided, patrols will take place on an hourly basis at the perimeter of the property to ensure that there is no sound escape. Any sound escape from the property shall be addressed immediately and reduced to a level that is not audible at the nearest residential property. After 11pm these patrols shall also address noisy patrons outside the premises. A logbook is to be kept to record such patrols and incidents and shall be made available for inspection by Council Officers.
3. Clear signs that are a minimum A4 size are placed at exit points stating 'This is a residential area please leave quietly'.

The applicant has started to build decking at the back of the club's premises where he intends to serve drinks and food have "regulated entertainment" for longer hours (up to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays, as shown in his post on social media site, Nextdoor (17/04/2021) which was shown to me recently:

Raynes Park Vale FC Licence Application. Hi Folks,

I just wanted to answer a few of the questions/assumptions on Nextdoor regarding the licence application for the club.

First of all let me introduce myself to those of you who do not already know me. I am Justin and I own the coffee & food business @brewedawakeninguk which is currently located outside @RPVFC clubhouse. We also own a successful catering company @cateredbyjustin Myself and Sarah have also been licensees in the are for the last 25 years. Our last couple of pubs where the beautiful Firestables in Wimbledon Village and the Leather Bottle on Garrett Lane.

So we will be taking care of the hospitality side of things at the club going forward, in order to bring some professionalism and passion to that side things. The club already has a licence for its members and we just want to open things up a bit to the locals. We are currently refurbishing the inside of the club in order to make it more appealing to small wedding parties and club diners. We are also building a nice decked area on the outside by the coffee airstream.

The vision is to have a nice area for locals to stop off and socialise. The outside area however will only be open till 10pm. May I also point out that there will be no amplified music on the decking just nice acoustic individuals and duets. There will be some nice craft beers available as well as a nice wine list and a few simple cocktails (as in Pimm's on the deck). There will also be a fresh food offering for which we would like to use the artisans currently supplying our weekend market. Our opening hours will be 12:00 midday till 11:00pm Mon to Sun. we have applied for longer licensed to allow us some flexibility with our weddings etc.

This is the state of the decking work as at 28/04/2021:



The photo shows how close the new decking is to the Berrylands properties, where the applicant intends to serve food and alcohol until late every evening.

Even without amplification, the noise of customers and “acoustic individuals and duets” and the lighting will be intrusive for neighbours living in Berrylands, Cannon Close, and some on Grand Drive. Those who wish to take exercise and enjoy the peace and quiet of PGPF and Cannon Hill Common will be prevented from doing so.

Please note that alcohol is already being sold out of doors at the “artisans’ markets” at weekends (plastic mugs of beer). Is this a breach of the current clubs licence?

The application is also for the “exhibition of a film - indoors and outdoors from Wednesday to Sunday”. I have no objection to films being shown indoors to club members, provided the current Annex 2 conditions are met. But to disturb residents and those using PGPF and Cannon Hill Common for exercise or quiet relaxation would be a clear example of public nuisance.

Currently hospitality at RPVFC is for members and guests only. The applicant’s intention to open a pub/wine bar is totally unsuitable to this site. Condition 2 should be upheld, and there should be no exterior decking – all hospitality should remain indoors, inaudible from the exterior.

The premises should remain for club members only and this licence application should be refused.

3) Protection of children

Under-age drinking happens on Cannon Hill Common and PGPF. The evidence –discarded empty cans and bottles, sometimes with nitrous oxide ampoules - can easily be found. There is a danger that this could get worse if the application were granted.

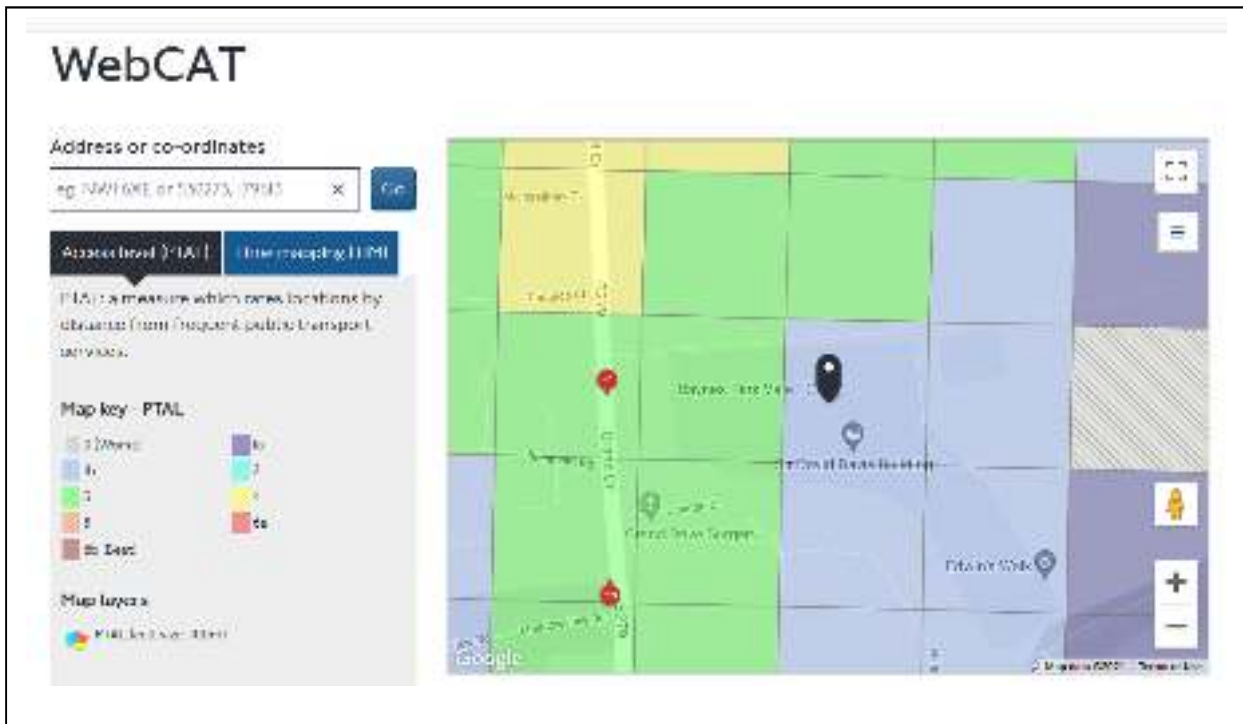
It is concerning that this licence application will encourage drinkers next to a school sports field.

4) Customer access to RPVFC parking and litter

Paragraph 1.9 of the Council’s Licensing Policy 2021-2026 refers to the dangers of drink driving and paragraph 13.4 (ii) states that the licensing committee should consider

“the availability of public transport in the locality (including taxis and private hire vehicles) for patrons;”

The RPVFC clubhouse is not near any public transport - the nearest being the bus stops on Grand Drive. It only has a PTAL of 1b (see following page) so residents are likely to be disturbed by the arrival and departure of taxis and minicabs.



This means that customers are likely to drive to RPVFC, which could result in drink driving problems.

Since the daily coffee stall and “artisans’ markets” began at RPVFC, I have noticed an increase in cars parking in Heath Drive and Parkway; I have been told that some drivers even have the cheek to use The Paddocks Allotments car park, which is for allotment holders! Instead of being a daytime irritation, nearby residents would probably see parking problems increase in these streets until late at night. This, in turn, would lead to noise when customers return to their vehicles after pub closing – more potential public nuisance.

Those living in Berrylands and on Grand Drive will also be impacted by the noise of customers walking across PGPF at any time from 10:00 am until after midnight.

If this licence were granted, the gates onto PGPF from Grand Drive would have to remain open throughout opening hours for emergency access. Currently only those playing in matches drive onto the site. There would be degradation of the grass if customers park their vehicles on PGPF.

Parked cars will also detrimental to the visual amenities of the Metropolitan Open Land – sited as a reason to limit markets on PGPF (4(b) https://www.merton.gov.uk/assets/Documents/0974-prince_georges_playing_fields_sw20.pdf).

I can see no way that applicant would be able to control access to PGPF and prevent customers driving and parking on PGPF.

Those living on either side of the Grand Drive entrance would be disturbed frequently by customers’ vehicles entering and leaving, which would be particularly irritating late at night. This is yet another example of the public nuisance that would result if this application were granted.

In past years, there were instances of stolen vehicles being driven onto PGPF and then torched (a post had to be erected next to the gate to prevent vehicle access when the gate was locked). Having the gates open in the evenings would be likely to attract such antisocial behaviour – yet another potential public nuisance.

Since the daily coffee stall and “artisans’ markets” began at RPVFC, The Paddocks has seen an increase in litter (coffee cups and food packaging) left nearby and so have the wonderful volunteers who litter pick on Cannon Hill Common. This problem would be likely to get worse if customers buy drinks to consume off the RPVFC premises.

Conclusion

I strongly object to this application and urge the Licensing committee to reject it.

Paragraph 4.5 of Merton Council’s Licensing Policy (2021-2026) states

“Licensing law is not the primary mechanism for the general control of nuisance and anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are away from the licensed premises and, therefore, beyond the direct control of those responsible for the individual premises or places. Nonetheless, it is a key aspect of such control and licensing law will always be part of a holistic approach to the management of the evening and night-time economy in the London Borough of Merton.”

I urge the Licensing Committee to adopt this holistic approach to protect Prince George’s Playing Fields, with its Metropolitan Open Land Status, and the well-being of those who live nearby.

The use of the football club’s premises should be for members of the club only, with the conditions stated in the current licence.

Yours faithfully

Mary-Jane Jeanes

To: Merton Council Licencing Committee

Re Applicants: Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Application Type: New Premise Licence

Application Ref: WK/202103135

Date 18 May 2021

From : Mr G and Mrs E Jewson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

We have been residents in [REDACTED] overlooking the playing fields and club house for over 35 years. In this time the club house and fields have been used for a number of different events run by the football club. On occasions we have had problems with noise and some bad behaviour, but as this has not been on a regular basis have never complained.

In regards of the football clubs application for licence and usage we feel we must oppose what has been requested for the following reasons.

- (1) Noise that an all day bar will bring to the area either from the public or increased traffic from cars or delivery vehicles.
- (2) Proximity to other playing fields
Messines Playing Fields, which is used on a daily basis by school children has its boundary near the club entrance
- (3) Wildlife
Long term damage to plants and animals
- (4) Pests
Litter and food waste which has already attracted rats to the field and garden since the mobile refreshment unit has arrived, our worry is this will increase

From: Sian Jones
Sent: 17 May 2021 09:02
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: WK/2021033135

Dear Sir/ Madam

We are writing to you in regarding to the application WK/2021033135 Raynes Park Football Club.

We are a local residents living at the back of the football club. Our garden backs on to the field where the new decking is located.

We have been very pleased to see the increased use of the club over the summer with the food and drink and the food market.

However we have significant concerns regarding the application to play live and recorded music outdoors until 23:00 hours, and to show film outdoors until 10:30, and feel we have no option but to object on the grounds of the prevention of public nuisance.

We moved to this area to enjoy the tranquility of the location, and feel this would be significantly impacted with noise pollution late in to the night. We would be unable to enjoy our garden, or leave our windows open. We feel that any music/ film entertainment and drinking should be limited to indoors only after 9pm.

We also have concern about the following:

- noise of people outside on the decking after 9pm
- noise of people and cars leaving until half past midnight.
- traffic pollution
- limited parking- we would want assurance that the field at the side of the football club (where the decking is being built) would not be used as a car park as happens on busy football days. This is an area enjoyed by local residents and has been cared for by local residents with recent tree and plants planting. Cars parking here prevents local residents from enjoying using the field, and has on many occasions destroyed the grass for many weeks.

We have no objection to the music, film and drinking within the building, but feel this would significantly affect our peace of the area if this were done outdoors.

Yours sincerely,

Sian and Matthew Jones

From: Simon Jones <
Sent: 10 May 2021 17:19
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: WK/2021033135

Dear Sirs,

I wish to register my objections to the proposed application for a late night alcohol licence for Raynes Park Vale Football Club.

Having lived in the area for 35 years, we have largely been undisturbed by the club and its bar, apart from those occasions when hired out for parties or other events. On those occasions, the noise of music travels a great distance due to the clubhouse's elevated position on what is essentially open land and can be clearly heard from our house. Also, some of the guests depart in an inebriated state and are prone to shouting as they make their way home at or after midnight.

The area is primarily residential, with Canon Hill Common and playing fields covering two sides around the clubhouse, and private residential dwellings on the other two sides, with some houses being in very close proximity. There are also a number of public footpaths in the area, including one that passes outside the clubhouse and the proposed open air concert area.

The idea that this application will convert a private, members only club into a fully licenced 10+ hour per day public house with the attendant noise of music, live concerts and films, would cause huge disturbance to what is currently a very quiet, peaceful piece of open land with the natural beauty and wildlife of Cannon Hill Common.

The further consequences of allowing this application to proceed would clearly include increased traffic, pressure on scarce parking spaces, littering further damaging Cannon Hill Common, and generally reduce the quality of the area for all local residents.

I thank you for your consideration.

Simon Jones

From: Nicky Jones

Sent: 11 May 2021 20:40

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Subject: Raynes Park Vale Football Club - proposed additional application WK/ 202133135

Dear Sirs,

I wish to respond, and strongly object to - and strongly oppose - the above application for a very extended licence to sell alcohol and to provide 'music/ live concerts and films', 7 days a week 10 am - 11 pm, and opening 8am - midnight Mondays to Thursdays (midnight on Fri/Sat and 22.30 on Sundays) to the public, so beyond to their current Members.

This, in effect, would be opening a new 'pub' to the general public, every day of the week, with huge increased parking/noise disturbance/ increased litter to residential areas and those immediately backing on to the Ground, on what is Metropolitan Open Ground.

The noise level, as residents on Grand Drive since 1986, has usually been reserved to Members weekend parties; though bearable, the sometimes 'over enthusiastic' endings have resulted in extended noise/car traffic, on leaving, for a considerable time beyond the 11pm curfew.

This new application, with extended hours outdoors, to 7 days a week to the general public, would be a HUGE infringement on the local residential area. In addition, the 'concerts/open air film' proposals would only add to the question of parking/security/ litter, not to mention constant noise disturbance.

In addition, the proposed, superseded application opening hours are from 8.00 - midnight Mondays to Thursdays; 30 minutes later on Fridays and Saturdays, 22.30 on Sundays...all with proposed music, films, eating and alcohol sales to the general public, superseding the current Members only licence.

While wishing to keep the Raynes Park Vale Football Club fully active and thriving in sport for the area, this new application would be totally detrimental to the spirit of local SPORTS clubs and simply become a public 'free for all', which would NOT be The Raynes Park Vale Football Club any longer.

Their present licence is restricted to selling alcohol to their Members inside their Club room. This is a hugely increased application for a licence to sell food and alcohol to the general public, on and off their premises to which I have huge objection.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nicola Jones

From: liam kane
Sent: 20 May 2021 18:09
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale Area

To whom it may concern,

I'd like to write in favour of the raynes Park Vale area which has made huge strides over recent months. The area has become more community based and brought the community together. The market has become a hub where people want to visit and as a result I now walk there with my two young children on a regular basis and feel extremely safe.

There is clearly a lot of work that has gone on there and I would like to see this continue so that it becomes an even better community hub.

Many thanks,

Liam Kane

From: Lucy Kavanagh
Sent: 05 May 2021 08:38
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale licence application

Hello,

I'm writing to lodge an objection to the recent licence application by Raynes Park Vale football club.

This is quiet residential area which is completely unsuited to late night live music and drinking. The club house itself was not built as a late night venue, it is effectively a large prefab shed type structure without adequate sound proofing and a modern air conditioning system. As such any playing of music will be clearly audible in the nearby houses both due to the construction of the building and as the doors will be opened late at night due to the poor air conditioning. It will be by its very nature be a noise nuisance.

Whilst I appreciate the efforts of the club to generate more income, I fail to see why the financial interests of a football should take precedence over the rights of residents to continue to have quiet enjoyment of our homes. We live on a quite cul de sac by choice, and many residents are either elderly (having bought on their own children here) or families with young children (I have two year old twins myself).

In addition the site itself is sited on metropolitan green space. Access to the football club is available via two unlit routes through the metropolitan green space. One is an unlit footpath and involves walking down a short stretch of woodland and the other is an access road, which again has no standard lighting.

We have been generally supportive of the daytime weekend food market that has sprung up at the football club since lock down. Although we don't frequent it often ourselves we appreciate it provides an amenity to others in the wider local area, and given the activities are primarily during daylight hours any noise / access issues are manageable. In that context we think a license during daytime hours would be more reasons (say midday to 6pm).

However we would have some concerns about even this more limited proposal given the issues with rubbish on the site. Some rubbish from the stalls has been just left on the adjacent metropolitan green space site e.g. there was a piece of corrugated iron there for the entire winter, and stall holders burn rubbish on the adjacent metropolitan green space site. We are particularly unhappy about this as our children walk and play in this area, and the fires are simply made on the ground. We would be concerned that such action would be exacerbated by increased commercial activity the site and be worsened by the use as a drinking venue. The proposed terrace is next to / on metropolitan open space that our children (and others) play on and we are concerned about discarded cigarette butts or bottles / glasses and the associated danger to children.

There are currently at least two empty pub units in Raynes Park town centre (the former Railway, and Edward Rayne) either of those sites would be a far more suitable location for the licensee to develop a new entertainment / late night drinking business.

Best Regards,

Lucy Kavanagh

From: Gail Khan <
Sent: 24 May 2021 09:10
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application WK/202103135 by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Dear Merton Licensing Team

Application WK/202103135 by Raynes Park Vale Football Club

I write in favour of the revised licence application for Raynes Park Vale Football Club.

As a local resident and employee in the licensed trade, I write to support this application and ongoing development of the RPVFC area near Cannon hill common

I believe this is a great addition to the area as it provides a safe, regulated space for locals to get together socially and meets the licensing objectives

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of RPVFC and all users currently and respectfully using the RPVFC, Café bar and Artisan market. Thank you.

Regards,

Gail Khan,

Dear Sir/Madam

Raynes Park Vale Late Night Licensing Application (WK/2021033135)

I strongly object to the application for the following reasons:

1. The prevention of crime and disorder

- Selling alcohol and providing loud entertainment late at night to members of the public all days of the week will effectively turn the Sports Club into a pub. The Sports Club is in a residential area which is simply not equipped in the same way as a high street (where pubs are usually situated) to deal with the potential crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour that occurs next to a pub.
- The Sports Club is situated in open parkland, adjoining public playing fields, Cannon Hill Common, children's play areas and school playing fields. There are various footpaths which pass the club and various access points. This is not an area which is subject to a police presence, such as a high street and, due to the factors mentioned it will be difficult and expensive to police. It would place an unacceptable burden on the police to manage.
- I have not seen any proposals from the management team of the sports club as to how they will deal all of the potential crime and disorder that stems from late drinking hours e.g. drug use, rubbish, underage drinking, criminal damage and disturbance to the adjoining residents. They have no right to restrict access to the outside areas of the Sports Club and so no ability to prevent hoards of people turning up and drinking outside the Sports Club next to the adjoining houses to enjoy the entertainment. As far as I am aware the management have not produced any impact assessments or plans to mitigate the specific risks of the location of the Sports Club.
- The residential houses that back onto the Sports Club and the surrounding streets would face a much higher level of crime, vandalism, noise and litter as people get drunk in the Sports Club and outside of it and then walk home through residential streets late at night.
- Please also see my comments below in respect of public safety – these are also relevant to the increased risk of crime and disorder that the application poses.

2. Public safety

- The access points and paths to the Sport Club are unlit and full of potholes and it is unsafe for pub goers to be accessing the Sports Club late at night. There is a higher risk for people walking in such places (which is traditionally used for taking exercise, dog walking etc.), including people attending the Sports Club, to be attacked by drunk people or drug users who are drinking late at night at the Sports Club and who take advantage of the unlit, dark paths.
- The only vehicular access to the sports club runs from a busy road (Grand Drive) via a small lane which runs across the playing fields/open land. The road does not have any markings and runs between residential dwellings. The access is closed by way of a locked gate when sports activities are finished. If the Sports Club is effectively running as a pub (or hosting large wedding parties) as would be permitted if the application succeeds, then the gates will need to be left open. This means that the sports and playing fields will be open to fly tipping, motor

bike racing, drug dealing in cars and other anti-social and criminal behaviour. This is not appropriate for playing fields used by families and children.

- Given the distance from nearest town and train station (Raynes Park) it is highly likely that there will be an increase in the traffic (including taxis) pulling into and out of the small accessway and turning late at night to pick up and drop off attendees of the Sports Club. This will pose a danger to any pedestrians who are using the accessway in the dark and other drivers. It will also increase the risk of accidents on Grand Drive as the road is not marked.

3. The prevention of public nuisance

- The Sports Club is in a residential area. There are family houses which back directly onto the land (and have direct access to it) which has always been simply open recreational land. If the Sports Club is allowed to sell alcohol to the general public, both inside and outside and have music and show films late at night all days of the week this will cause a massive nuisance to the residents and also to residents of adjoining houses. There will be a much higher level of noise, much more footfall, loud voices, loud films late at night and other anti-social behaviour. There will be more litter and disturbance when attendees are getting to and from the Sports Club, or trying to park their cars in adjoining residential streets. It is simply not appropriate to have what is effectively a pub or wedding venue in this area.
- Users of the playing fields and footpaths running past the Sports Club (including the children using the school playing fields directly adjoining the Sports Club) are likely to be intimidated when exercising if they have to do so in front of large groups of people drinking at a pub. The purpose of the recreational land is for healthy recreation, not running a pub.
- There are far more suitable venues for a new pub in the area, the old Weatherspoons and the Old Railhouse on Approach Road are both lying empty. These are both in areas which are far more suitable for the running of a pub. I do not believe that the Sports Club is even sound-proofed and, if there is drinking and music outside until 11pm then this will cause serious public harm to neighbouring families.
- There are already overflowing bins in the playing fields and this has certainly increased since the snack van and Sunday market at the Sports Club. If the application is allowed then there will be even more litter which is blighting our open land and endangering our wildlife.

4. The protection of children from harm

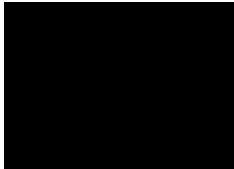
- The Sports Club is situated in a residential area, full of families with babies, children and teenagers. Loud films being shown late at night, loud music, alcohol and pub goers arriving and leaving throughout the evening and the increased anti-social behaviour and potential drug use will be harmful to children living in the area and using the open land for recreational activities. Children living nearby will be woken through the night and will be even more vulnerable to the risk of harm which I have set out under the other headings.
- The open land is enjoyed by families for healthy recreational activities, dog walking, running, cycling and playing. This promotes healthy living and good mental health. Many children also walk to school and nursery through this open space. It is harmful to children to have this

recreational space turned into a pub, where alcohol is consumed and loud music and films are shown until late at night all days of the week.

- As explained above, the increased traffic with the unsuitable accessway and access point will cause a danger to pedestrians. This is even more of a risk to small children wobbling on scooters and small bikes, who are trying to escape the busy adjoining roads by using the park.
- The additional traffic will also increase pollution to the playing fields and open land. The open land is supposed to be an area where children can escape from cars and pollution and myself, and other residents with children, often walk through the fields to bypass the pollution on Grand Drive.

Yours sincerely

Rose Lambert



From: Terry Larche
Sent: 09 May 2021 11:13
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application for late night Alcohol Licence

Dear Sir/Madam

Application reference is WK/2021033135

I understand that an application is being made by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for late night Alcohol Licence and also to have live and recorded music indoors and outdoors from 11 am until late at night.

I strongly oppose the application to sell alcohol to the general public because crime and disorder will increase and also noise from the venue will severely impact residents living in the area, more cars will be parking around the club and in general it will become just like any pub.

Thank you

Teresa Larche(Mrs)

From: Mandy Le Fondre <
Sent: 22 May 2021 10:53
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: application reference no. WK/202103135

Dear Merton,

I write in favour of the newly proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale football club.

I have been a local resident and user of this area for over 21 years and on hearing/seeing the developing area near Cannon hill common, my family and friends are really excited especially in the light of Covid and business's closing.

This is a great addition to the area, for locals mostly and the opportunity to join as a member too.

I believe these plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows:

- The prevention of crime and disorder

Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other.

- Public safety

Rules would be adhered to as per licence and users would sign off an agreement when using eg membership. Rules & Regs to be displayed and if issues arises those persons could be banned.

- The prevention of public nuisance

Signage displayed to be adhered to eg unreasonable noise and users would be asked to respect local neighbours and prevent the Rpvfc losing their licence.

The Four licensing objectives are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder

- Public safety

- The prevention of public nuisance

- The protection of children from harm

- The protection of children from harm

Safety measures would be in place as for all licences facilities and rules and regs would cover safety aspects. This would only be used by children who are supervised by responsible persons.

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and behalf of Rpvfc and all users currently respectfully using the Café and Artisan market.

Take care & stay safe
Mandy Le fondre

From:
Sent: 26 May 2021 11:10
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale FC licence approval

Dear Merton,

I write in favour of the newly proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale football club.

I have been a local resident and a loving user of this area for over 7 years and on hearing/seeing the developing RPVFC area near Cannon hill common, my family and friends are really excited especially in the light of Covid and business's sadly closing.

I believe this is a great addition to the area, for locals mostly and the opportunity to join as a member too. We currently have nowhere close by to walk to easily for socialising over a drink with friends and meeting locals.

The Four licensing objectives are: -

The prevention of crime and disorder - Public safety - The prevention of public nuisance - The protection of children from harm

The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows: -

The prevention of crime and disorder: Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other.

- Public safety: Rules would be adhered to as per licence and users would sign off an agreement when using eg membership. Rules & Regs to be displayed and if issues arises those persons could be banned.

- The prevention of public nuisance: Signage displayed to be adhered to eg unreasonable noise and users would be asked to respect local neighbours and prevent the Rpvfc losing their licence.

- The protection of children from harm: Safety measures would be in place as for all licences facilities and rules and regs would cover safety aspects. This would only be used by children who are supervised by responsible persons.

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of RPVFC and all users currently and respectfully using the RPVFC, Café bar and Artisan market. Thank you

Kind regards

Tamsin Lees

From: Lockstone, Juliette >
Sent: 24 May 2021 14:00
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: RPVFC (Raynes Park Vale Football club) Licensing application

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to object to licencing application from Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC). RFPVC is located in a residential area and the club house itself backs immediately onto housing (Berrylands Cul De Sac). Access to the club house is either via a dirt track through woods next to the allotments off Parkway/Heath Drive via a walkway locals call Edwin's Walk or via the main St Georges Playing fields which has a part made up tarmac'd road with the rest being gravel track. There is no proper street lighting / infrastructure/ security/ parking. At night in winter once, the flood lit lighting around the pitch in turned off this entre area is in darkness.

Currently the clubhouse that is little more than a small outbuilding has been only licensed to sell alcohol in limited hours to members only and music has been restricted to inside the club house to avoid attracting undesirable attention and disruption to the local community. This has worked successfully for at least the last 20 years and whilst there is noise and light pollution whilst a match is in play this is accepted by residents with no complaints as it is usually all over by 8.30pm- 9pm a couple of times a week.

Finally, although the manager of the bar Justin Whitehead has assured residents he will respect the residential nature of the area and seek to minimise disruption I understand he has already been requested to stop selling alcohol outside to non-members before the licence has been granted. This behaviour shows a blatant disrespect for the residential community and the current licencing restrictions already in place, which causes further concern associated with the broad nature of this licence application.

I object to this application to extend the hours of operation, to serve non-members, to pay music and films outside until late at night on the following grounds.

Public Safety

- Currently the RPVFC is a members only club, the new application is to serve alcohol to non-members. This is in effect opening a public house with extended hours (until midnight) in a parkland/scrubland area with no suitable infrastructure which I believe causes a material danger to both attendees of the club (Members and the general public) .
- The lack of proper infrastructure, like pavements, lighting, parking, a tarmac'd road is a public safety hazard and you will end up with someone tripping, falling and hurting themselves. This is not a pub in a town centre it is an outbuilding in scrubland next to a terraced row of houses and a football pitch.
- The venue manager (Justin whitehead) has made some changes to the local area such as the coffee cart, and local farmers markets (which are welcome additions by local residents) but I don't believe then selling alcohol during the day and evening to general public both inside and outside the clubhouse adds anything to this venture. If anything unrestricted alcohol sales represents a risk to public safety by drawing in crowds to an unsuited area. I understand the club are keen to receive the 10% commission on Justin's clubhouse turnover and I fully support their fund raising aspirations but turning a clubhouse into a public house in this location is not one I can support.

Crime & Disorder

- The location of the club, is highly likely to draw attention from criminal elements and I can see this area being highly attractive for drug dealing and prostitution as the playing fields car park is in the dark completely unlit and now instead of being locked at night would be open all hours and provide ideal cover for those to ply their trade.
- The application makes mention of 'weddings'. The venue is highly unlikely to attract weddings' it is more likely to attract, 18, 21 birthdays and stag nights which combined with outside music into the late hours is likely to provide noise, public nuisance and the petty criminality such as vandalism, destruction of local property which occurs when drunken youths leave a venue late at night. Again this circumstance being aggravated that this venue is not in a town centre with appropriate infrastructure such as lights and CC TV to help prevent / deter such public nuisance behaviour and crime.

Public Nuisance

- The clubhouse backs onto residential area, even with the current hours of operation and controls there have been incidents of drunken youths damaging fences, throwing bottles and litter into resident's gardens, urinating into resident's gardens. If this venue is open to the public, I can see this causing a considerable public nuisance.
- The area is completely unsuited to a 'public house' with such extended opening hours 7 days a week. There has been lots of commentary on social media with non-residents saying they think an outside music venue is a great idea, with bands playing until 10 – 11pm. I genuinely can't understand the licensing committee agreeing that live bands in the middle of a family neighbourhood with children and working adults does not cause a public nuisance. The fact that so many non-residents are saying they would make the journey to attend a new pub with outside music alerts me that this could cause significant noise pollution to not just immediate residents in Berrylands, but also Cannon close, Heath drive and Parkway. If the licensing committee wanted to support a new public house with outside music, (both recorded and live) then I suggest a commercial premises designed for that purpose with proper facilities and infrastructure and policing in a town centre is more appropriate.
- In relation to the use of outside music (live and recorded) if granting the licence how would the licence committee under the current very broad application , restrict the volume to ensure it does not disrupt residents and restrict the hours to ensure it does not cause a public nuisance???. At the moment if the licence was granted the venue could elect any working night as a 'band night' and there would be nothing to stop them completely disrupting the residents / local area with music at any volume until 11pm every day except a Sunday which is 10pm.

Disruption to Families and Children

- This is a quiet residential area and noise travels at night. I can see this being a popular outside venue in the evening for outside live music which might be great for non-residents but would be horrific for local residents both those with children or not. A few years ago, the council gave permission for some festivals in the park and I was unable to hear myself in my own kitchen, let alone garden until late in the evening due to music that was not of my choosing. The licence application is for outside music late into the night every night 7 days a week, that is completely inappropriate in a residential area and will prevent children from sleeping and subsequently disrupt their schooling and parents who have to work, will be prevented from an adequate nights sleep due to the extended hours.
- The licence application makes a request to hold outside films – I assume the licence committee cannot stipulate or monitor the selection of those films which could result in adult only films being shown and heard in full sight and sound of children in the immediate residential area which would not only cause disruption but could actually be threatening and harmful. For instance if the venue decided to hold a 'horror' theme evening how would the licence committee protect against the harmful impact to local children especially those whose

bedrooms back immediately onto the clubhouse and would have full visibility of any films shown.

In conclusion, I have 4 main objections to the current licence application

- Opening to the general public – this should be retained as a members club only
- The extended hours of alcohol sales during the working week – this should be restricted to 11pm at weekends and a shorter duration during the week inline with other member only sports clubs in the area.
- The playing of music (recorded or live) outside – this should be restricted to inside use only
- The playing of films outside – this should be restricted to inside use only

Yours faithfully

Juliette Lockstone

From: Hugo Lough
Sent: 26 May 2021 15:00
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Application WK/202103135

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of the application made by Raynes Park Vale FC for the license extension.

The team have turned the site from an essentially unused land into a thriving market at weekends and a hugely popular coffee spot for walkers through the week. The plans they have will transform the area into a fantastic family friendly space and bring real value to the local neighbourhood.

A site like this is sorely needed in the area and I urge you to look favourably on their application.

Kind regards

Hugo Lough

From: kirsty maccallum <kirsty.maccallum@merton.gov.uk>
Sent: 25 May 2021 10:57
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: Councillor Eloise Bailey <Eloise.Bailey@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Hina Bokhari <Hina.Bokhari@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: RPVFC Football Club Licence Application

Re application for alcohol licence

To whom it may concern,

Further to my previous correspondence on this matter from 8 May 2021, I understand that Raynes Park Vale FC (“RPVFC”) have made a new licence application which supersedes the previous application.

My concerns previously detailed (copied below for completeness) still stand, however this new application gives me further concern.

Firstly, the alcohol sale hours proposed go beyond the previous proposal- and are far in excess of what is appropriate for the walkers and football spectators currently catered for. All day drinking until midnight would create potential for serious public nuisance and is a huge concern to me and my neighbours, many of whom have young children or are elderly.

There is also a specific intention for both recorded and live music outdoors, all day every day, until very late at night. I believe this will be very disruptive to local residents, whose homes back onto the field.

Likewise, the exhibition of films in this space is completely inappropriate. This will create light and noise directly behind residents’ homes, and the gathering of large crowds of people. Again, this is intended to go on until very late at night which will disturb people in their own homes and gardens.

I don’t believe that either loud music or film exhibition is appropriate for local wildlife either. The granting of this licence will disrupt animals birds and insects, and impact their habitats through trampling of the wildflower meadow. I don’t believe this is in accordance with the land being Metropolitan Open Land, which should be protected as green belt land.

On the grounds of preventing a public nuisance, I hope you will concerns these concerns carefully.

Previous concerns raised copied for completeness:

Firstly, the hours requested seem excessive. The coffee van and market currently run until the early evening only, and similarly RPVFC matches are daytime events, thus there seems no good reason to serve alcohol at the venue until very late at night. I also do not see it as reasonable to expect to serve alcohol late into the night every day of the week. There are young families, including my own, and elderly residents whose homes back onto this field that would be severely impacted in terms of disruption, noise and anti social behaviour very close to our homes and gardens. The adjacent field to the east is also used all day by school

children from the Messines School, and it should be considered whether it is appropriate to have an all day drinking venue so close to these children. A licence for late evening hours to maybe 8pm or 9pm on weekends only would be more community friendly. I would similarly be concerned with a licence that allows the venue to play loud music late at night which would disturb the local residents.

The field is also home to a vast array of wildlife and I am concerned about the impact that an increased volume of footfall through the field, litter, noise and bright lights may have on local wildlife habitats. I understand that Prince George's Playing Fields directly adjacent to the site to the north is a designated site of importance for nature conservation (a 'SINC'), while Cannonhill Common to the south is home to a protected nature reserve. The land in between belonging to the football club is Metropolitan Open Land and part of a Green Chain, and therefore ought to be treated as an important ecological site - from the Mayor of London's policy on this "*The strongest protection should be given to London's Metropolitan Open Land and inappropriate development refused, except in very special circumstances, giving the same level of protection as in the Green Belt. Essential ancillary facilities for appropriate uses will only be acceptable where they maintain the openness of MOL.*" (See map image below.) The impact assessment on this woodland ecosystem of a commercialisation of the land ought to be undertaken with care.

<image.jpg>

<image.jpg>

Source: https://www.merton.gov.uk/assets/Documents/www2/merton_policies_maps_raynes_park_july14.pdf

I am also concerned about the facilities and infrastructure supporting this endeavour. The patio currently under construction is large and I have not seen any evidence of enhanced toilet facilities being provided at the venue. I would be concerned that drinkers may simply relieve themselves in the field if this is not addressed, causing sanitation issues. Similarly there is a need for adequate and enhanced refuse management. Currently the coffee van relies on one large wheelie bin, however I imagine littering becoming a problem with food and drinks being served all day and night to a larger customer group. Consideration ought also be given to pest control at the site. Already this spring there is a significantly higher than usual rat population in Cannonhill Common and the surrounding areas, and this will be exacerbated by outdoor eating, drinking and littering.

Kindest regards,
Kirsty MacCallum

From: kirsty maccallum <kirsty.maccallum@merton.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 May 2021 17:57
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: Councillor Eloise Bailey <Eloise.Bailey@merton.gov.uk>; Councillor Hina Bokhari <Hina.Bokhari@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: RPVFC Football Club Licence Application

Re application for alcohol licence

To whom it may concern,

I write regarding my concerns with the application for alcohol licence by Raynes Park Vale FC ("RPVFC").

I am very supportive of local businesses generally, and of RPVFC and Catered by Justin's entrepreneurial enterprises specifically, with the introduction of the coffee van and the weekend market. These are good additions to the area. I am also in theory happy for them to create an outdoor seating area for summer drinks in the field behind - however there are important concerns with the specifics of the licence request which I hope you will address in your consideration of the application.

Firstly, the hours requested seem excessive. The coffee van and market currently run until the early evening only, and similarly RPVFC matches are daytime events, thus there seems no good reason to serve alcohol at the venue until very late at night. I also do not see it as reasonable to expect to serve alcohol late into the night every day of the week. There are young families, including my own, and elderly residents whose homes back onto this field that would be severely impacted in terms of disruption, noise and anti social behaviour very close to our homes and gardens. The adjacent field to the east is also used all day by school children from the Messines School, and it should be considered whether it is appropriate to have an all day drinking venue so close to these children. A licence for late evening hours to maybe 8pm or 9pm on weekends only would be more community friendly. I would similarly be concerned with a licence that allows the venue to play loud music late at night which would disturb the local residents.


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GENERAL

 Plan Boundary

**SITE PROPOSALS
DETAILS IN SCHEDULE**


 Site Proposal


ENVIRONMENT

 Metropolitan Green Belt (CS13, DM01)

 Open Space (CS13, DM01)

 Green Corridor (CS13, DM02)

 Wandle Valley Local Nature Recovery Policies (CS5)

 Wandle Valley Local Nature Recovery (Policy CS13)

 Sites of Special Interest (CS1)

 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (CS1)

 Local Nature Recovery (CS13, DM02)

 Flood Risk Zone 1 (Flood risk 1/100)

 Flood Risk Zone 2 (Flood risk between 1/100 and 1/1000)

 Green Chain

Sites and Policies Plan | 282



Source:
https://www.merton.gov.uk/assets/Documents/www2/merton_policies_maps_raynes_park_july14.pdf

I am also concerned about the facilities and infrastructure supporting this endeavour. The patio currently under construction is large and I have not seen any evidence of enhanced toilet facilities being provided at the venue. I would be concerned that drinkers may simply relieve themselves in the field if this is not addressed, causing sanitation issues. Similarly there is a need for adequate and enhanced refuse management. Currently the coffee van relies on one large wheelie bin, however I imagine littering becoming a problem with food and drinks being served all day and night to a larger customer group. Consideration ought also be given to pest control at the site. Already this spring there is a significantly higher than usual rat population in Cannonhill Common and the surrounding areas, and this will be exacerbated by outdoor eating, drinking and littering.

I hope these points will be considered in the decision making on this application.

Kindest regards,
Kirsty MacCallum

From: Dorina Markoff <
Sent: 13 May 2021 10:49
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Objection to late night alcohol licence to Raynes Park Vale FC

To whom it may concern

Dear Madam/ Sir,

I, Dorina Markoff-McNulty living on , would like to submit my objection to granting a licence for a late night alcohol sales submitted by Raynes Park Vale FC on several grounds:

1. Crime and safety - The permission to sell alcohol and play music will essentially transform the fields around the club into an open air “pub”. Many people will make this open air bar their party destination which will inevitably increase the crime, drug abuse and antisocial behaviour in the whole area. The open fields and the nearby forest will allow the crowds to stay well after the opening hours. The police presence will become almost permanently needed to control the disturbance.
2. Health - we have all endured a very difficult year of social distancing and restrictions. Promoting outdoor party premises will allow for large gathering of people with unclear consequences. As a community, the last thing we want is yet another spread of the virus.
3. Noise - playing music outdoors and large groups of drinking people seven days a week until 11 pm will transfer the residential area into a non-stop festival. The people leaving and arriving will be using the nearby streets to park cars and taxis, walk home, and further additional noise to a quiet, family area.
4. Polluting - the limited toilet capacity at the premises will force people to use the nearby forest and playing fields. Additionally, the disposal of plastic cups, bottles, cigarettes and drugs will inevitably affect the entire area.
5. History - the entire neighbourhood was established as a family residences with limited pubs and alcohol consumption.
6. Sport and its message - in my opinion a football club should be promoting healthy living and setting an example to the young generations as a caring, respectful and community engaged organisation. Promoting late night drinking is not something that a sports club should be doing. Most professional football clubs are actively working into cutting the alcohol promotions at their times of activities. The football in Scotland has become completely free of alcohol, defeating the popular tales that football clubs need to sale alcohol in order to fund themselves.

I hope that the Council will take a responsible and reasonable decision. One that protects not only the present, but also the future of its residents and their children.

Best regards,
Dorina Markoff-McNulty

From: Michael Marks
Sent: 24 May 2021 10:40
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Licensing Application: WK/202103135

The Licensing Team at Merton Council

As a resident of the local area, I wish to object to the Raynes Park Vale Football Club Licence Application.

The club wish to have late night drinking, film shows and use the building for large events. This is like turning the place into a pub on a sports ground and a quiet nature park. The extra volume of people will need access from Grand Drive, a residential road or through a gap in the fence from Cannon Hill Common which would be a major disturbance for the local wildlife. Although with a few alcoholic drinks inside them the wildlife in the club house will increase.

As there is limited public transport to the area, we must assume that the patrons will arrive by car, where will they park, Heath Drive, Parkway and Berrylands. Taxis cannot drive close to the venue as there is nowhere to turn around and they cause a greater disturbance. It will not be long before the club put in a health and safety planning application for lighting the route on the common to Heath Drive. This would completely wreck the habitat for the animals on the common.

Also lighting the paths from the club house to Grand Drive along the football ground will also be required, disturbing the residents backing on to the site.

Prince George's Playing Fields is a Nature Conservation site which will be disturbed at night by people leaving the clubhouse and the lighting of the path. It will not be long before the bats, owls and other animals are killed off.

As the fields are mostly used by children, I do not feel that having them watched by alcohol fuelled adults is very suitable.

Using the clubhouse as a party venue will exaggerate the problems because 150 people plus staff will involve a minimum of 100 vehicles. As a lot of guests will not know the area they will park along the footpath to the venue and on Grand Drive, the road is not wide enough to park without being half on the pavement.

The field the clubhouse is in, is a haven for wildlife. The decking that is in the process of being built is close to the houses in Berrylands and Grand Drive, which with only a few people will be a noise issue. This same decking area is going to become a lovely new home for rats, shelter and dropped food, what more do they need.

The RPVFC has a licence to provide alcohol for Members and their guests until 11pm. I believe that this has worked well until now and I am not aware of too many complaints from the residents. Allowing films and larger numbers is going to end the goodwill of the same residents. The police have enough difficulty controlling the venues on the high street they do not need to have an isolated venue in a field.

For the above reasons I do not think that you should allow this application.

Sincerely
Mr Michael Marks

From: Stuart Martin <
Sent: 20 May 2021 20:07
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Subject: RE: New application for a premises licence WK/202103135

Good evening,

I wish to support the application for a later licence at the club house.

The club is a family run facility with very supportive staff, from the behind the scene admin staff, to the managers and coaches.

The club house will support and give the families a centre to meet and socialise.

In relation to the prevention of crime and disorder, the facility is secluded and will not attract anti social behaviour and indeed will give individuals a safe and secure environment.

Stuart Martin

From: Eric Massey <
Sent: 18 May 2021 20:14
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Application for entertainment licence

Dear Sirs,

I wish to oppose the application made by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for a licence for entertainment and late night alcohol based on the prevention of public nuisance.

Every Sunday due to the antiques markets and car boot sales, there are traffic jams on Grand Drive because of the bottleneck at the Grand Drive entrance to Prince George's Playing Fields. The area has also become very noisy from these events. If this licence is approved, these issues will not only become worse, but they will occur every day, not just on Sundays, and there will be no break from it. I also believe that all day entertainment and the selling of alcohol will attract more crime to the area and more loud and unruly behaviour. This will disturb the local residents and make the area less safe.

Kind regards,

Eric Massey

From: Emma Massey <
Sent: 18 May 2021 16:55
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Licensing Application - Raynes Park Vale Football Club For Late Night Alcohol Licence

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to object to Raynes Park Vale Football Club's application for an entertainment and late night alcohol licence in the interest of public safety, the prevention of crime and disorder, and the prevention of public nuisance.

I believe that if Raynes Park Vale FC is allowed to provide entertainment and sell alcohol all day long, the noise levels in the area will increase and disturb the residents. This is a racket that will be going on until basically midnight every day, so our sleep will be disturbed. The antique/car boot/farmers markets that have been held in the Prince George's Playing Fields in the recent weeks are already very noisy and this licence will make the noise levels even worse and for a longer period of time.

I also believe that by selling alcohol the level of rowdy behaviour will increase, impacting the safety of local residents.

On this basis, I oppose the licence.

Kind regards,

Emma Massey

From: Oliver Massey <
Sent: 22 May 2021 14:11
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale Football Club Application WK/202103135

Dear Sir,

RAYNES PARK VALE FOOTBALL CLUB FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR CONSUMPTION ON & OFF THE PREMISES; FILMS LIVE & RECORDED MUSIC AND LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT - APPLICATION WK/202103135

I am writing regarding the above application. I am objecting to this application on the basis that it contradicts efforts to prevent crime and disorder and increases public nuisance.

There are already occurrences of late night noise and rowdy behaviour from groups of people who are drunk walking up Grand Drive, particularly since lockdown measures have been eased. This licence for entertainment and sale of alcohol during the day and late into the night during the week will make the situation worse. It will result in higher levels of traffic and all day noise from the traffic and also the entertainment. I work a high-paced 9 to 8 job currently working from home, this will impact my sleep, thereby impacting my job performance.

These are not the only issues. The granting of this licence will set a precedent for further development. The addition of a decking area would be just the start of this development.

People specifically visiting for the drinking facilities will cause an increased footfall which will degrade the wider green spaces. The degradation of the playing fields from the fortnightly antique markets/car boot sales is already plain to see. Adding a pub into this mix will exacerbate this problem.

The provision of food and drink particularly with disposable plastic/paper cups/napkins will increase litter, which is unsightly, but more importantly is detrimental to local wildlife. People under the influence of alcohol are not known for being careful about their litter.

It is on these grounds that I'm objecting to the application for this licence and development.

Regards,

Oliver Massey

From: Linda <

Sent: 17 May 2021 10:23

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RAYNES PARK VALE FOOTBALL CLUB FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR CONSUMPTION ON & OFF THE PREMISES; FILMS LIVE & RECORDED MUSIC AND LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT - APPLICATION WK20211033135

RAYNES PARK VALE FOOTBALL CLUB FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR CONSUMPTION ON & OFF THE PREMISES; FILMS LIVE & RECORDED MUSIC AND LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT - APPLICATION WK20211033135

TO: LICENSING@MERTON.GOV.UK

Dear Sir

I am writing to oppose the above licensing application for the following reasons:

- the prevention of public nuisance
 - the prevention of crime and disorder
 - public safety
-
- **The Prevention of Public Nuisance**

There will be an unacceptable level of noise to residents in Grand Drive, Berrylands, Cannon Close, Parkway and Cannon Hill Common and surrounding areas from the entertainment and traffic that the licence will bring.

The noise will break the much needed peace and tranquility that Prince George's Playing Fields and Cannon Hill Common provides to local residents.

Having lived in my house for over 27 years I know that noise, particularly the base boom sound of music, carries across the fields even when it is coming from within the premises. Any sound from indoor and outdoor events will carry through the air on the wind and disturb residents, some with young children who are in bed early in preparation for school the next day and old people who are less able to tolerate noise.

There will be an increased level of traffic and visitors coming into and out of the park 7 days a week, from morning to night, to use the facilities. There is a one-lane traffic at the entrance to the playing fields, this causes traffic to back-up into/out of the field causing long queues of traffic on an already over-busy Grand Drive.

I have recently had to write to the Council to complain about the traffic noise and disturbance at the Grand Drive entrance to the playing fields (i.e. hooting, blaring car music, revving and speeding of car and motorbike engines, miss-firing exhausts and people shouting (some from road rage)), as a result of the Antique Markets and Car Boot Sales which go on all day Sunday (a day of rest) all Summer long. A copy of my email send to you on 19/04/21 about the Antiques Market/Car Boot sales is below to back up my opposition to this licence.

The sale of alcohol all day on and off premises will encourage drunkenness and the undesirable behaviour that goes with it. People who possibly have been drinking all day long with drunken and disorderly behaviour will use the Grand Drive and other exits at all time of the day and night, disturbing the peace and quiet of the area.

Litter in the area will no doubt increase from the food and drink being supplied all day long for on-site, off-site consumption.

Cannon Hill Common pond I believe has fishing facilities in the summer. Any noise would disturb the fishing activities. The peace and quiet of the Common will be broken.

- **Public Safety**

Families and young children entering the fields on foot have to compete for access with the increased motor traffic due to the antique/car boot/farmers markets being held on the fields/FC. This is a safety issue; I have witnessed road rage incidents as a result of the traffic congestion. The increase in traffic due to the granting of the Raynes Park Vale FC licence will only make the situation worse.

I take it that the 'Public Safety' category not only covers physical safety but also mental health safety issues as it should. The Playing Fields and Cannon Hill Common are used by residents to alleviate mental health conditions. Any loud music, entertainment, traffic noise and sale of alcohol will break the peace and tranquility that this area provides to residents and will deprive us of a much needed source of natural therapy.

The increased levels of pollution due to the increase in traffic at all hours of the day will affect my children who suffer from asthma/allergies. Please see below links to Merton Council's Environmental Policies and Air Quality Report which will be impacted in a negative way:

<https://www.merton.gov.uk/Documents/Annual%20Status%20Report%202020.pdf>

<https://www.merton.gov.uk/assets/Documents/8%20Environment%20Chapter%20Merton%20Stage%202%20draft%20Local%20Plan.pdf>

<https://www.merton.gov.uk/planning-and-buildings/sustainability-and-climate-change>

I would like to mention the recent legal case of Ella Kissi-Debrah who died because nitrogen dioxide emissions in the Borough of Lewisham exceeded the legal limit.

As you are aware, there is an existing problem with traffic and HGVs using Grand Drive and there are time restrictions in place for HGVs, to give residents a break from the noise and to improve air quality. In view of this why would the Council even consider approving a licence which will only make the matter worse?

- **The Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

We do not want an increase in crime in the area which entertainment/the sale of alcohol are likely to bring:

- My property has been the target of a burglar who watched my house from the fields, climbed over the fence and stole a briefcase with important documents from my house.
- I have had police officers knock on my door and searched my garden because burglars have used the park as an escape route and dumped their ill-gotten goods so that they could pick them up later.
- In the past when the gates to the fields have been left open at night it has been used by joyriders who have abandoned cars and set them alight in the middle of the night.
- When the gates have been left open illegal contractors use the fields as a dumping ground.

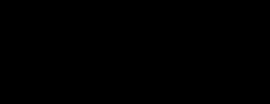
- On occasions I have also observed suspicious behaviour in the fields and on the premises of the football club (drug trafficking?).

It's my belief that this licence and all day sale of alcohol will attract an unruly element and result in an increased level of crime in the area.

This licence in any shape or form is totally unacceptable in a quiet residential and currently green space area because of the noise, increased crime and disorder and public safety issues it will bring, and I sincerely hope that the residents' concerns will be taken into consideration.

Yours faithfully

C. Massey



-----Original Message-----

From: Linda <[REDACTED]>

To: licensing@merton.gov.uk <licensing@merton.gov.uk>

CC: [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon, 19 Apr 2021 13:15

Subject: Car Boot Sales/Antique Markets - Prince George's Playing Fields - Grand Drive

Dear Sir

I am writing about the Car Boot/Antique market that was held on the Prince George's playing fields yesterday, Sunday 19 April 2021.

I understand that this will be the first of 14 to be held on the site – this spans the whole of the summer.

The market covers almost the full length of half of the park, with most of the rest being used as a car park which - demonstrates the scale of the operation.

I would like to bring to your attention the following concerns:

An entrance/exit to the fields was created via Bushey Road to avoid the use of the Grand Drive entrance/exit which is predominantly used for the sports fields. For some reason the market traffic seems to have been given the go-head to use the Grand Drive entrance/exit. This entrance/exit has only one lane which causes a bottleneck and a queue of traffic trying to get into and out of the park. This resulted yesterday in traffic backing up on Grand Drive almost all day long (not to mention traffic using Grand Drive to get to the Bushey Road entrance).

For the entire day, beside the increased traffic noise, we had to endure the following: hooting, blaring car music, revving and speeding of car and motorbike engines, miss-firing exhausts, people shouting.

I have photographic evidence taken from 3:30 pm onwards which show that the market was still trading at 3:30 pm with some stalls packing up at around 4:30 onwards – thereby ensuring that the traffic continued until after this time.

As you are aware, there is a problem with traffic and HGVs using Grand Drive and there are time restrictions in place for HGVs, to give residents a break from the noise and air pollution. Surely, allowing this increase in traffic during the whole of Sunday is a contradiction of these restrictions and also makes a mockery of Merton Council's Environmental and Climate Change policies?

I understand that the Prince George's Playing fields and surrounding area has Metropolitan Open Land and S.I.N.C. status; it is used mainly for sports activities. It appears that the Council is increasingly allowing this land to be used for commercial purposes. This is a scary prospect particularly as the Council appears to be allowing more and more development on green spaces in the area, including the development of back gardens and the cutting down of trees that have existed on the road for centuries (one opposite 56 Grand Drive to allow for a development of packed house in a tiny plot of land is an example).

My family suffer from asthma, hayfever and allergies. The increased traffic as a result of the market (and over-development in the area) is contributing to the air pollution and exacerbating our symptoms.

tinyurl.com/yg25r5n6

I hope the Council will consider these concerns and take action to enforce it's own Environmental and Climate Change policies in relation to the Playing Fields and surrounding area.

<https://www.merton.gov.uk/assets/Documents/8%20Environment%20Chapter%20Merton%20Stage%202%20draft%20Local%20Plan.pdf>

<https://www.merton.gov.uk/planning-and-buildings/sustainability-and-climate-change>

Kind regards,

C. Massey

Email: [REDACTED]

10th May 2021

Licensing Section,
London Borough of Merton,
14th Floor,
Civic Centre,
London Road,
Morden,
Surrey
SM4 5DX

Dear Sir/Madam,

Application WK/2021033135

I wish to put in writing our objections to the above application. We feel that the granting of this will result in increased car parking, high volumes of noise and nuisance, disruption and inevitably more much litter.

This area has already been affected by the arrival of a coffee van and outdoor market at weekends which has meant much more footfall and traffic in the area and a huge increase in the amount of litter left lying around on the common. There are not enough bins to control the litter that is already accumulating from the van and market, without the arrival of the Club selling alcohol etc. Parking in Parkway is already an issue with the increase in people attending the coffee van and market.

Inevitably more people will arrive to drink, bringing with them the risk of crime and disorder. Public safety may well become an issue if undesirable people come to an area hitherto unknown to them which in turn could result in petty theft and burglaries.

This is a residential area and I believe residents do not want a "pub" in all but name on their doorstep.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
Sheila & Colin May

From:
Sent: 23 May 2021 19:30
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Reference WK/202103135

To whom it may concern

Regarding the pending license application for Raynes Park Vale FC Reference WK/202103135 I would wholeheartedly like to lend my support to this venture. I feel it will make an excellent social venue for the surrounding residential area , Noting that by accepting this licence application Helps prevent public nuisance by encouraging the safe consumption of alcohol in a controlled area & environment which is COVID compliant.

As at the moment it's consumed all over the common area & residential too without control Of a licensee .

As a family friendly venture it will protect children from harm as it's a controlled area under the licences objectives to make it thus .. a place for family's to visit as one .

It's lovely to be able to support a non profit organisation and support small local businesses I look forward to It's opening .

Many thanks

Tara McCourt (local resident)

Tara Mccourt

From: Bridget McGregor <
Sent: 23 May 2021 19:26
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: In Support of Application for Alcohol Licence Ref: WK/202103135

To whom it may concern

I am writing today with respect to the above application **WK/202103135 by Raynes Park Vale Football Club**

I am fully in support of this application for the following reasons:

1. I understand the football club already has a licence inside the club and to my knowledge it is used only for club players, supporters, friends and family and has until now, not been cause for complaint.

2. This club is under new management and the new manager has injected so much enthusiasm into revamping the club, the grounds, and removing unsightly rubble, dumped rubbish, rusting old bits of metal etc. The area is no longer the shabby derelict mess it was 6 months ago. Improving the site has made the field a pleasant place for local people to enjoy exercising and walking their dogs.

3. Most importantly, in my opinion, the new management had the foresight to offer the space outside the club to various vendors including a coffee van which is there daily and various food and drink vendors who make up a lovely little market space each weekend. This has been a godsend for our community during lockdown. To be able to walk outside and have a cup of coffee and see familiar faces in the park, has brought me out of a long deep depression. When I have mentioned this to other people I have chatted to (socially distanced), many people echo this feeling. The cafe became a beacon of hope for our neighbourhood. An incentive to leave the house, get some exercise, see friendly faces and say hello, even if it is just to smile at a stranger and not feel so isolated.

4. The plan to have an outdoor licence will allow our neighbourhood to have somewhere outdoors, which is dog and family friendly, where we can meet and socialise with friends whilst boosting the revenues for the club. Bearing in mind that the demographic of our neighbourhood is mainly families with young children and elderly folk, I am convinced that the clientele will be wholesome and family friendly. Raynes Park has no outdoor drinking gardens. This would be a blessing to have as our alternative is to go to Wimbledon Village, which is overcrowded and expensive. It is so wonderful to have a little neighbourhood hub for locals to meet and enjoy the outside space.

5. I understand that there are residents who live on a street which neighbours the RPVFC property who may have reservations about the noise. I would just like to say that I have seen the sun deck that is being built and it is far away from the fence line of the gardens of those properties. Noise is very unlikely to be an issue. Personally, I live adjacent to Raynes Park Residents Tennis Club and my living room is less than 15 metres from the baseline of the nearest tennis court. I have lived alongside the club for many years in peace and harmony despite the sounds of people being trained by coaches with booming voices, loud grunting, floodlights, loud music every Monday night during their cardio tennis classes. It is not unpleasant to hear people enjoying the outdoors and being happy. I would far rather have a

lovely wholesome family friendly tennis club next to my house, than a derelict site that encourages fly tipping. This, I believe is the same situation as the neighbours of RPFVC. Rather a family friendly social space than a derelict neglected open space.

6. If the licence is not granted, it will be to the detriment of the club, as revenues will be adversely affected and the enthusiasm for the betterment of the club and surrounding grounds will grind to a halt. The danger here is that the site returns to a state of dereliction and results in the landlord selling the property to developers. What a shame for our local green space and community that would be.

7. The management of the club would like to beautify the grounds and eventually extend the club facilities to offer netball. This would be wonderful as it would provide more sport facilities to young ladies in the area.

8. I am in favour of initiatives to bring our community together. Neighbourhoods should have a place where people can meet and get to know one another. In this way, people treat each other better, look after each other, crime reduces as we watch over each other. Please consider the social implications and importance of community for Raynes Park and particularly the West Barnes and Cannon Hill wards.

Thank you for reading this letter of support. I firmly believe that we should all be encouraging social and sporting hubs in our neighbourhoods. The best way to do this is to build stronger communities and support our local sports clubs and food and drink vendors. So many people benefit from this initiative.

Yours sincerely

Bridget McGregor

From: Jo McIntyre <
Sent: 26 May 2021 08:38
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC) application - objection

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing with respect to the new application submitted by RPVFC which if granted will allow music, films, eating and alcohol sales outside of the club building itself.

I live in Cannon Close, furthest from the grounds and as it is already I can hear the shouting and noise from matches being played. My concern is that my home and those of neighbours will be affected by significant noise if music, films and outdoor eating and drinking are permitted.

The operating hours being sought are extensive and continuous, providing little respite for local residents. The hours being sought for alcohol sale are unreasonable and not dissimilar to those of a public house or restaurant. I cannot see the need to serve alcohol from 1000 every day of the week. The clubhouse building is not located in a shopping or business location but is metres away from residential homes and a adjacent school playing fields and Cannon Hill Common where people go for peace and quiet enjoyment. This will be detrimentally impacted by the proposed operational and licensing hours being sought.

The noise and disturbance generated by coming and going early in the morning and late into the night seven days a week will be deleterious on the lives of those living nearby. People leaving and cars starting and moving off will cause disturbance even if unintentional - once alcohol is consumed people are less aware of the noise they make and less inclined to care. Staff cleaning up and leaving premises will occur even later.

The prospect of drunken behaviour and potential for aggression is not what people in this area want. Walking past groups of primarily men, when walking your dog, who have been drinking and are bolstered by group mentality is not what people want and will change the character of this currently quiet and pleasant area of Raynes Park.

RPVFC has previously dumped dangerous and unsightly rubbish such as fridges, metal and glass windows all over the area surrounding the clubhouse for years on end demonstrating little concern for people using the path past the clubhouse. This raises serious doubts about how likely the club is to pay regard to the conditions of the license or minimising disruption to neighbours. They tried to install lockers outside which failed, demonstrating a lack of proper planning and understanding of potential issues, which I fear could be replicated with the significant and broad ranging licensing conditions being sought.

The rubbish and additional collections and deliveries the new licensing conditions will necessitate are a cause for concern as these activities will increase significantly meaning bigger lorries dropping off and collecting empties, generating more noise and potential danger to animals and children used to running freely in the area. The club already has rubbish often overspilling from its receptacles and there is a realistic likelihood that rubbish will be generated by those buying food and alcohol at the club which will not be adequately cleaned up - see my point about dangerous materials not properly disposed off despite risks to the public and animals above.

If live and recorded music is permitted every day there is no respite for residents and it could lead to frequent specific social events attracting larger numbers of participants e.g discos, parties, awards nights and fund raising events.

These activities are likely to generate additional vehicular traffic from those using the club and greater demand for parking. Realistically this is likely to result in parking either on the grassed field behind the clubhouse or along the access road. The playing fields are already being destroyed by the number of cars parking for the football league games . More parking will change and damage the appearance and safety of the area.

The showing of films for the majority of the week seems to suggest this football club is trying to offer facilities tantamount to a more generic social club and this is designed to draw people in to avail themselves of the food and alcohol and has little to do with football.

I object to:

- the extensive operating hours themselves;
- the sale of alcohol seven days a week and from 1000 to 0000 and 0030 on Fridays and Saturdays;
- alcohol sales on and off the premises;
- live and recorded music every day and the extensive and late hours proposed;
- the exhibition of films [Wednesday-Sunday](#).

The current licensing conditions require that the club must ensure noise cannot disturb neighbours. I urge that this condition is retained and the extensive hours are restricted with applications required for a pre sets number of more flexible events with notification given to neighbours in the immediate vicinity. License conditions should prohibit amplification of music or playing of music outdoors.

Alcohol sales should be restricted to indoor premises only with last orders at 2200 on weekends to preserve the quality of life of local people. Specific conditions limiting parking and deliveries/collection hours should be applied along with conditions on rubbish storage and keeping the area free from rubbish, glass and debris with the safety for the public and animals taken into account.

Opening in the morning should be restricted to 0830 on match days only with later opening on other days to preserve the quality of life of local people.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Joan McIntyre

From: Lorian <
Sent: 11 May 2021 14:39
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: Raynes Park Vale Football Club licence

Please find attached below my concerns which were originally submitted without all the information you require.

My name is Mrs Lorian Mead of

To whom it may concern,

I would like to object to the licence application being requested by Raynes Park Vale Football Club.

This is based on the following:

1) the roads surrounding the club are residential, family sized homes. Many of whom have young children. Live and recorded music being played up until 11pm leads to an increase in noise - for the period of the time covered by the licence and in addition the time taken for the area to clear, following closure. Potentially impacting on people's sleep and currently as many people are working from home, would provide disruption to their work also. I believe this would have a negative impact on the quality of life of residents. Many of those who purchased our homes as this is a quiet area, away from shops and amenities. Had we wanted this, there are properties closer to Raynes Park that would have provided this. Increased noise would be of particular impact now with the ongoing stress we live with whilst the Covid pandemic is ongoing.

2) the change in licence changes the purpose of the site from being a club house for sporting members and their guests, to being one that is more of a business focus. This again impacts local residents who have chosen the area to be, in part, away from the increased footfall and issues that businesses bring.

3) alcohol sales on and off the premises would have a huge impact on the local area. From increased noise and litter (there are the club bins and one further bin in the area). More concerning, the purpose of the site is for sports and recreation, ie health. Increasing the number of people drinking alcohol is in opposition to the purpose of having a facility that promotes health and wellbeing in the local area. It also makes the area less accessible to some children who currently independently use the sports ground for recreational purposes, again with a benefit on their health and wellbeing. In addition, there are pubs in Raynes Park centre, which is walking distance away, and has better facilities including car parks. These are also away from where children frequently play.

4) an increase in hours of the licence just extends the period that local residents would have to any experience changes.

5) the amenities do not support wider use. There is no car park on site and creating one would use up valuable sports ground/ green space. The increase in traffic would increase the risk to people using the sports facilities as they have to drive past the sporting fields to get to the

venue. In addition, the area is currently much walked by people and groups including those with children and dogs, who would be impacted by the increased traffic.

6) pollution would increase with more vehicles coming to the site as either customers or for deliveries. There are local residents for whom increased pollution may have a significant impact on their health e.g. those with asthma, COPD etc.

I appreciate your taking the time to read my opposition of the licence.

Kind regards

Lorian Mead

From: Stephanie Mooney < Sent: 25 May 2021 21:02
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection to application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for late night alcohol license - Deadline 26th May

Dear Sir / Madam,

My name is Stephanie Mooney and I will be moving to _____ next week. I have just been informed of the above application (reference: WK2021033135) by the solicitor acting for me in the purchase and by current residents in the area who are deeply concerned by the proposals in the application.

Part of the reason for choosing _____ as our family home was due to the tranquil green space that our garden immediately backs onto. The proposed plans to have music, films and the provision of alcohol to the public late into the evening would no doubt be a public nuisance and would greatly reduce our enjoyment of the property and garden. The Berrylands properties are located extremely close to the football club and my family, along with other residents in the area, would have our sleep and work (with many of us working from home in the longer term) affected by the proposals.

In addition, the provision of alcohol to the general public would certainly make the area less safe and increase the chance of unwanted visitors to the Berrylands properties. People cannot be controlled even if precautions are taken and it is the proximity of the football club space to the Berrylands properties which is of great concern. I am not alone in feeling very uncomfortable at the idea of our children and pets playing in the garden with the proposed activities happening practically on our back doorstep.

The inevitable noise, litter (which in any event is difficult to keep under control in London, made worse when people are outside eating and drinking regularly) and safety concerns lead me to object in the strongest terms to the application and I do hope you will give these concerns serious consideration.

Kind regards,

Stephanie

From: Ruth Moore <
Sent: 08 May 2021 12:35
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale Football Club late night alcohol licence

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to oppose the application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for a late night alcohol licence.

I am a local resident with a young family. I am extremely concerned the proposal will greatly impact the local area with noise and potentially antisocial behaviour and litter. There will also be an undesirable increase in traffic in an already congested area.

I am not opposed to the club selling alcohol during their games but to extend this beyond this time is wholly unacceptable.

I would be grateful if you could log my strong objections.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Ruth Moore

From: Michelle Morton <
Sent: 23 May 2021 23:02
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>; Licensing
<Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Licence application -Raynes Park Vale FC

Dear Elizabeth,

I write in favour of the newly proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale football club. I have been a local resident for 2 years and on hearing/seeing the developing RPVFC area near Cannon Hill Common am very excited. I believe this is a great addition to the area, for locals mostly and the opportunity to join as a member too. The Four licensing objectives are: - The prevention of crime and disorder - Public safety - The prevention of public nuisance - The protection of children from harm. The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows: - The prevention of crime and disorder: Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other. - Public safety: Rules would be adhered to as per licence and users would sign off an agreement when using membership. Rules & Regs to be displayed and if issues arise those persons could be banned. - The prevention of public nuisance: Signage displayed to be adhered to eg unreasonable noise and users would be asked to respect local neighbours and prevent the Rpvfc losing their licence. - The protection of children from harm: Safety measures would be in place as for all licences facilities and rules and regs would cover safety aspects. This would only be used by children who are supervised by responsible persons. I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of RPVFC and all users currently and respectfully using the RPVFC, Café bar and Artisan market. Thank you
Michelle Morton

From: margaret nally
Sent: 25 May 2021 08:50
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Ref no WK/202103135

From
Margaret Nally

I am objecting to the extended license because being a resident and using the way past this club for many years it is not an appropriate place to have a pub as that is what they are proposing with drinking outside and advertising for people to go to watch football. Before you know it will become a pub not a members club.

1. It is not an appropriate place as it looks directly on to a school playing field. And I feel it would be a danger to children.

2. It backs on to residents gardens

And would be noise nuisance

3. There will be coming and going of cars 4. It might be ok at first but once this venue gets known, as he has already advertised it on social media, it will become a full blown pub and in summer all drinking will be outside.

Margaret Nally

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 May 2021 15:47
To: Elizabeth Macdonald <Elizabeth.Macdonald@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: WK/2021033135 pages 11&12 Late Night Alcohol Licence Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Dear Ms McDonald,

My details required are as follows:
Nathalie Panzeri

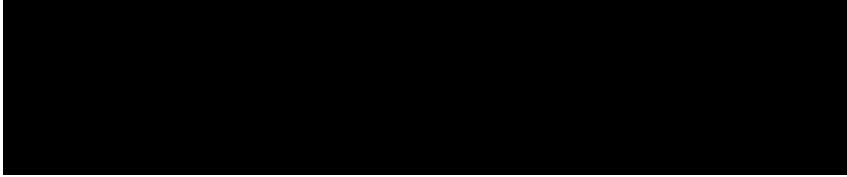
I wish to object to the late opening hours of the Raynes Park Vale Football Club and the license to sell alcohol to the general public.

I have recently moved to this area and have enjoyed the quiet nights, in contrast to where I used to live, where I often used to hear people who have had a few too many drinks at night walk back to the tube station late at night. I don't miss being woken up by the shouting and arguing, that often follows a night of drinking. I moved specifically for a more quiet life and I would be very angry and frustrated if this happened in our area now. It would be detrimental to our quality of life.

I would be grateful to hear how things develop.

Kind regards
Nathalie Panzeri

Sent from my iPhone



13th May 2021

Licensing Section,
London Borough of Merton,
14th Floor,
Civic Centre,
London Road,
Morden,
Surrey
SM4 5DX

Dear Sir/Madam,

Application: WK2021033135

Re. above application. I wish to put in writing our objection to the above on the following grounds:

1. Increased parking – we are already experiencing increased parking due to the introduction of a coffee van and outdoor market.
2. The increase of footfall and traffic in a quiet residential area.
3. Increase of noise and litter (which is a major problem at present).

Cannon Hill Common is an area of peace and tranquillity - let's keep it this way.

Yours faithfully,



John Pritchard.

From: M. Rahim Dad <
Sent: 11 May 2021 10:26
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Opposition to application reference WK/202103135

Subject corrected

Dear Licensing team

I am writing to you with regards to the application by Raynes Park Value Football Club for late night alcohol licence.

I as a resident of Parkway strongly oppose this application. We, the residents around Cannon Hill Common in general and Price George's playing fields in particular, enjoy and treasure the tranquillity, peace and safety of this area which is very welcome for families as well as anyone who want to enjoy the green space that we live next to. I, as a parent of a child with autism and complex needs, moved to this area for its peaceful, tranquil and safe nature.

If this application were to be approved, it will have an extremely adverse effect on all the things that the residents enjoy and treasure about this area including what I have listed above thus leading to the detriment on the quality of life of the neighbourhood. All of the above makes it clear I would like to prevent public nuisance and protect children as much as possible from side affects of alcohol sale to the public.

Additionally, alcohol sales to the public more often than not leads to crime and public disorder around the area with the possibility of attracting people who are only there for the alcohol and have no care or respect for the surroundings or the residents of the area. This would be very detrimental for the area in general and the residents in particular.

Lastly, the potential sale of alcohol would also lead to more people coming to the area at a time when most residents are home and parking on the surrounding roads is scarce which leads to the question of where will visitors park? If they were to park on surrounding roads, that would make parking more challenging for residents and add to the pressure. I as a parent of a special needs child am especially reliant on being able to park close to my home so that I am able to help my son negotiate the challenge of getting to the house from the car as safely as possible.

I myself am an enthusiastic follower of football and am very sympathetic to the challenge of the football club in raising money in these challenging times but surely there are better ways of doing it than selling alcohol till late at night and potentially to the public. I am sure if they work with the local community, alternatives can be found to help them generate income in other less evasive and safer ways. I hope you look favourably on my email and reject this application.

--

Best Regards,

Muhammad Rahim Dad

From: Martin Ramage <
Sent: 24 May 2021 22:26
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Licencing application from Raynes Park Vale Football Club
Importance: High

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to object to licencing application from Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC). RFPVC is located in a residential area and the club house itself backs immediately onto housing (Berrylands Cul De Sac). The club is located next to the football pitch and scrubland, is accessible only via a dirt track through the common next to the allotments or a gravel dirt road off St Georges Playing fields. The whole area does not have proper street lighting.

Currently the clubhouse that is little more than a small outbuilding has been only licensed to sell alcohol in limited hours to members only and music has been restricted to inside the club house to avoid attracting undesirable attention and disruption to the local community.

I object to this application to extend the hours of operation, to serve non-members, to pay music and films outside until late at night on the following grounds:-

Public Safety

- The location suits a member's only club with limited hours of operation, not a public house open to all, with no suitable infrastructure such as lighting, pavements, roads, security. The location poses a real and significant danger to the general public.
- This is not a public house in a town centre; it is an outbuilding in scrubland next to a terraced row of houses and a football pitch. At night, there is no lighting. I would be concerned for the safety of any female member of the public leaving the premises late at night unaccompanied.
- There is no adequate or secure parking. The location has no street lighting and poses a trip hazard and if parking in the St Georges Playing fields I can imagine a public safety issue with people trying to find their cars in the dark in a field.

Crime & Disorder

- The location of the club and ability to play loud music outside at night, is highly likely to draw attention from criminal elements. It is on 'private land', unlikely to be policed, surrounded by residential housing to one side and park, scrubland the other. As it has no lighting, no CCTV it is likely to attract both petty criminals but also more serious offences such as drug dealers who currently cannot enter the playing fields as they are locked in the early evening.
- Opening the venue to non-members make it a magnet of late night drinking from the youth section of the community who have a higher propensity for vandalism, petty crime, noise, disruption and disorder as they leave the venue late at night or partake in the now outside decking area right behind residents homes.

Public Nuisance

- Opening the venue to non-members make it a magnet of late night drinking from the youth section of the community who have a higher propensity for vandalism, petty crime, noise, disruption and disorder as they leave the venue late at night or partake in the now outside decking area right behind residents homes
- Residents have experienced this before when the clubhouse used to be used for events (even although those events were on a more restricted licence). Music was supposed to be indoors, that was disregarded and residents had to ensure endless late nights of music, with no control of

volume causing a public nuisance beyond the immediate residential road as noise at night carries.

- Residents had to endure drunken youths urinating in their gardens, trying to climb over back garden fences, vomiting over or around back gardens, throwing litter into the immediate area and back garden.
- The area is completely unsuited to a 'public house' with such extended opening hours 7 days a week. If the licensing committee wanted to support a new public house with outside music, (both recorded and live) then a commercial premises designed for that purpose with proper facilities and infrastructure and policing in a town centre is more appropriate.
- My largest concern of public nuisance is the application to have music (live and recorded) and films played outside. I consider this will cause a significant public nuisance within a currently quiet residential area and further will significantly disrupt the lives of families and children who live within the vicinity.

Disruption to Families and Children

- This is a quiet residential area and noise travels at night. I can see this being a popular outside venue in the evening for outside live music for non-residents but would be horrific for local residents especially those with children. The licence application is for outside music late into the night every night 7 days a week, that is completely inappropriate in a residential area and will prevent children from sleeping and subsequently disrupt their schooling and parents who have to work, will be prevented from an adequate night's sleep due to the extended hours.
- The licence application makes a request to hold outside films. These films will be able to be viewed from the bedrooms of any residents including children and I am concerned that films which are desirable to be watched by an adult whilst drinking are not the same as those suitable for young children. Granting this part of the licence therefore removes a parent's ability to control and monitor the images a child is watching from their own home/ bedroom, this would cause a significant disruption to family life.
- In addition to the above point, the licence requests live music outside. Some live music can be pleasant, some such as rock, or heavy metal bands use profanity in their lyrics. Live music also cannot have the volume turned down. Even if a live band sang with no microphone, due to the close proximity of the residential houses (some circa 30 steps away) children will be forced to listen to the lyrics / music in their own homes and bedrooms which may not be age appropriate and in any case would be extremely disruptive to family life.

In conclusion, I have four main objections to the current licence application

- Opening to the general public – this should be retained as a members club only
- The extended hours of alcohol sales during the working week – this should be restricted to 11pm at weekends and a shorter duration during the week akin to the licensing hours of operation associated with other member only sports clubs in the area (which generally close by 9.30pm.
- The playing of music (recorded or live) outside – this should be restricted to inside use only
- The playing of films outside – this should be restricted to inside use only

Yours faithfully

Martin Ramage

From: E. Reeve <
Sent: 12 May 2021 12:17
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Representation in objection to Football Club Application, WK/202103135

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to object in the strongest terms to the Football Club's new licensing application, reference number WK/202103135.

The Football Club's current licence has various provisions to protect local residents from noise, crime and disruption.

However, the proposed new licence to serve alcohol and play music/films outdoors until very late – seven days a week – will have severe implications in terms of all four of the licensing objectives.

Prevention of crime and disorder

Many of the neighbours I have spoken to remember how bad things were last time the Football Club had a late-night alcohol licence. I am reliably told that alarms frequently went off as people broke into the Football Club in search of leftover alcohol; patrons used to climb over the fence into private gardens to urinate; litter was thrown into gardens; aggressive and antisocial behaviour was regularly witnessed or overheard.

Whenever late-night alcohol is involved, such behaviour is sadly inevitable. Nevertheless, it's one thing for a pub on the high street to deal with these problems when they arise, but next to impossible for such crime and disorder to be effectively policed when we're talking about a secluded spot surrounded by private gardens and woodland. Is the Football Club prepared to take full responsibility for the behaviour of inebriated patrons? At the end of the day, we have to live here, and any rise in local crime and disorder will impact us directly.

Public safety

The tragic death of Sarah Everard has really brought home how important it is for women to feel safe in our community. Drunk men hanging out around the concealed and poorly lit entrance to the football grounds will cause local women real fear and anxiety on their walk home. It is utterly unacceptable if a woman can't walk home down Grand Drive after dark without worrying about groups of drunk men lurking around the corner.

Where my partner used to live in North-West London, every journey from the bus stop to her front door after dark came with apprehension: that is exactly what we were trying to get away from when we moved to Raynes Park last year. I know from my partner that lone men or groups of drunk men hanging around in quiet, poorly lit residential areas like the entrance to the football grounds is actually far more threatening than walking past a pub on the high street, where there is usually proper CCTV, better lighting, and more people around you.

Prevention of public nuisance

We moved to this part of Raynes Park specifically because we needed somewhere quiet and safe to live, coming from a much noisier part of London. The proposed licence directly threatens our ability to enjoy this beautiful and peaceful neighbourhood.

Don't we have the right to enjoy a peaceful evening in our gardens without loud music and constant noise from over the fence? Or to open a window for a breeze on a hot summer's night without it coming at the price of insomnia? Anybody who has attended a pub where they play music outside knows that the only way of maintaining conversation is to talk louder: the result is a rapid escalation of noise. There is no significant tree cover between the Football Club and our houses: in fact, our row of houses would be responsible for shielding the rest of Raynes Park from the noise!

My partner works long shifts for the NHS every day, which are both physically and emotionally draining: the very least she deserves is a decent night's sleep to keep her going. Countless scientific studies have demonstrated the deleterious effects of sleep disruption on physical and mental health. Loud recorded music, especially if it contains repetitive drum beats, carries very far and easily penetrates through walls and windows. It will not only be deeply unpleasant but also highly damaging to allow such amplified music to be played outside until late every night, aside from the inevitable noise of people talking/shouting as they drink outside.

Protection of children from harm

Many of our neighbours have babies or small children. They deserve to be able to bring up their young families in a safe and quiet environment. We mustn't underestimate the negative effect it has on children to be woken up by the sounds of aggressive shouting, swearing or fights breaking out.

If it were one of us residents playing music outside and hosting drunken parties until late seven days a week, this would be considered not only a public nuisance but distinctly antisocial! It is we, the residents, who will suffer if this is allowed to go ahead. And – as always – those who will suffer the worst will be the young children and the elderly/vulnerable in our community.

In conclusion, I urge the council to reject this licensing application for the sake of our local community. We are so lucky to live in such a happy and tranquil place – please help us to keep it this way!

Edward Reeve

From: Mark Rowe
Sent: 22 May 2021 13:43
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale FC licence approval ref # WK/202103135

Dear Merton,

I write in favour of the newly proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale football club. I have only been a local resident four just over 4 years but I quickly fell in love with the area and the people living here. It is such a friendly area and I greatly enjoy opportunities to meet other residents. When I heard about the development of the Rpvfc area near Cannon hill common, my family and friends were really excited to see a new place to mix with other members of our community. It is also great to see a local business expanding when so many others in Raynes Park have sadly closed due to Covid. I believe this is a great addition to the area, for locals mostly and the opportunity to join as a member too. The Four licensing objectives are: - The prevention of crime and disorder - Public safety - The prevention of public nuisance - The protection of children from harm The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows: - The prevention of crime and disorder: Local people coming together in a relaxed setting and building stronger neighbourly relationships, this would enable us to become better citizens to report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other. - Public safety: Rules would be adhered to as per licence and users would sign off an agreement when using eg membership. Rules & Regs to be displayed and if issues arises those persons could be banned. - The prevention of public nuisance: Signage displayed to be adhered to eg unreasonable noise and users would be asked to respect local neighbours and prevent the Rpvfc losing their licence. - The protection of children from harm: Safety measures would be in place as for all licences facilities and rules and regs would cover safety aspects. This would only be used by children who are supervised by responsible persons. I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of Rpvfc and all users currently and respectfully using the Rpvfc, Café bar and Artisan market. Thank you

Mark Rowe

From: James Ryan <
Sent: 09 May 2021 20:09
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: WK/2021033135

Sir/Madam,

I would like to write in **support** of this application. I was sent a note about this from the RPWBRA asking to object to this application however I believe this will be a positive addition to Raynes Park.

Raynes Park has only 2 pubs (The Cavern and the Raynes Park Tavern). Neither pub is particularly suited to entertain families and the addition of a mainly outdoor pub would be a resource that many families would welcome especially in the summer months.

There are similar establishments like Old Wimbledonians that promote a family atmosphere and I would imagine that this pub could also replicate that success.

The area of land and existing clubhouse have been neglected and run down for many years. In the time since the new coffee van has been added efforts have been made to improve this space and the dividends can be seen.

I think this application should be given a chance.

Regards,

James Ryan

Representation RPFVFC 4/5/21

We are writing to lodge our strong objection to the Raynes Park Vale Football Club licence application WK/202103135, dated 26/4/21. We are both hugely upset and distressed by the proposals, especially at a time when our home and garden are vital havens from the stress of life under COVID. Approval of the application would change fundamentally the nature of the grounds outside the 'clubhouse/changing rooms'. Frankly, it beggars belief that anyone purporting to have the interests of the community at heart would even contemplate such plans in this location.

What began as a simple coffee stall before Christmas has become a café with a full menu served at all times of the day. It would seem that the club already believe that approval of their plans is a foregone conclusion. Work has been ongoing for some time and a raised platform is now under construction, less than 20 metres from the back gardens of homes in Berrylands. One assumes that seating is to be placed there. Presumably planning permission is not required for any of this.

The blue summary notification put up by the applicant is misleading as it does not refer specifically to outdoor entertainment, or to New Year's Eve late opening until 1.30am. It is also unclear exactly what is meant by 'outdoor'. Are they simply talking about the grass area very close to the back of the residences in Berrylands and Heath Drive, or perhaps to a wider area including, for example, the football pitch and stand?

We object on the following grounds:

Public nuisance

This is a quiet residential area. Granting this licence will effectively give the go-ahead for the transition of the football grounds into an open-air pub/party/wedding/outdoor cinema in an area into which people move to enjoy the peace and quiet of a suburban area near green spaces.

Even if alcohol is not served after 11pm, or midnight, we know from past experience that the noise will continue long after this time. The prospect is intolerable.

How will the venue be accessed? Will people expect to enter via Whatley Avenue or "Edwin's Walk"? How would this affect residents trying to park outside their homes in these areas? At best, we face slamming doors and revving engines well after midnight. There are many retired residents here, such as ourselves, people with young children, and increasingly people who work quietly from home. We all get up early.

This application tacitly ignores the mental and physical well-being of those of us who live within sight of and/or earshot of the green space set to become an 'open-air cinema' and 'pub garden'.

The configuration of the residential housing is as it was in 2005 when an indoor licence was granted and the potential impact on residents was recognised when the restrictions below were included in the Licence.

Annex 2 Conditions consistent with the Club Operating Schedule

1. All doors and windows apart from access and egress are kept shut whilst regulated entertainment is being provided at the premises. 2. While regulated entertainment is provided, patrols will take place on an hourly basis at the perimeter of the property to ensure that there is no sound escape. Any sound escape from the property shall be addressed immediately and reduced to a level that is not audible at the nearest residential property. After 11pm these patrols shall also address noisy patrons outside the premises. A logbook is to be kept to record such patrols and incidents and shall be made available for inspection by Council Officers.

3. Clear signs that are a minimum A4 size are placed at exit points stating "This is a residential area please leave quietly".

Crime and disorder

There is no need to elaborate on this. There is always the potential for disorder when alcohol is served late at night. We do not wish to have further incidences of car damage or theft, or more rubbish. This is not a town centre, and there are no regular police patrols. We deliberately chose to live in a quiet suburb.

The protection of children from harm

As already stated, this would have an adverse effect on the sleep of young children and adults who have to get up for school, or who may be trying to study from home. Selling alcohol to the public could also attract groups of underage drinkers who are already a problem on the common and field. Vetting members of a club for indoor drinking is one thing, but there is a distinct danger of unknown 18 year-olds (complete with fake ID) attending, who then pass on the alcohol to younger friends.

As former teachers, we do wonder what the reaction of the of the Lycee would be to the presence of 'spectators' and a bar next to their lessons with children on the adjoining field.

Public safety

There is no explanation of proposed access routes. At present there is no lighting except from Grand Drive. Access from elsewhere on foot – such as Bushey Road, Heath Drive or Whatley Avenue - would present dangers to all concerned, especially after the consumption of alcohol. Do the club intend to provide lighting or to switch on the floodlights? This would raise serious concerns about light pollution, and would present a challenge for local homes and to local wildlife. Our precious but nevertheless vulnerable gem that is the adjoining Cannon Hill Common is a wildlife haven, and home to various rare species of bats, we understand. Little owls nest near the football club. Extra noise and above all extra light pollution will not be conducive to these species thriving. We believe the area which RPFVFC wish to develop is on metropolitan land.

Merton claims to be a green borough committed to caring for the local environment. This will run quite contrary to their aims.

Increased traffic on Bushey Road or Grand Drive would present a problem, as it already does for the car boot sales.

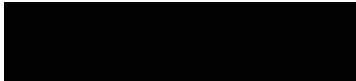
As regards health and safety, we would contend that the present set-up has already contributed to increased and unwelcome footfall and litter on the common. The paladins near the café are frequently full to overflowing, even if nominally tidied to one side, and rats are in evidence on the site.

Most of those who promote this business enterprise on social networks will not live in sight of or earshot of the area in question.

The considered judgement and subsequent current restrictions on the club (referred to above) were correct. The new proposals are completely unacceptable.

We look forward to your response,

Mr and Mrs Sanders



From: Kam <
Sent: 25 May 2021 16:39
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: WK/2021033135

Kam Sarabi



Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to object to the above application as I feel it would affect our day to day life when they had a licence before some years ago it was so bad that they had their licence taken away in the end.

Do not want loud music late at night and drunks urinating in my front garden on their way home! Also, if they have outdoor screens they'll be screening loud football matches until late at night. Don't want my child subjected to that and I do not like my summer evenings ruined by loud music and noises/sounds.

The thing with the club is it's ok as it is, but they want to serve alcohol to members of the public. Effectively that will turn it into a pub. Simply not appropriate in a residential area like this - it will be like a nightclub!

Regards
Kam Sarabi

From: Russell Saunders <
Sent: 11 May 2021 15:57
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Raynes Park Vale football club licensing application

I write further to my email below...

Accepting this license application helps to prevent public nuisance by encouraging the safe consumption of alcohol in a controlled environment, which is COVID-compliant. Currently, alcohol is consumed freely all over the common and surrounding area without control or safe practice. The success of this application would encourage alcohol to be in consumed in one area only and under the control of the licensee.

Thank you for your consideration,

Russell Saunders

On 8 May 2021, at 07:53, Russell Saunders <> wrote:

To whom it may concern

I write to wholeheartedly support the licensing application made by Raynes Park Vale Football club.

The invigoration of that area in the last 12 months as a community and social hub should be supported by this application's success. That music is part of the application is a welcome addition.

Russell Saunders

Russell Saunders

From: Jane Scarlett <
Sent: 21 May 2021 15:30
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence application for Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Hello

I am contacting you to strongly support this licence application, ref WK/202103135. I live close by the football club, and know how much of a benefit their community activities have been over the years. Although I am not a football fan myself, I appreciate that many people enjoy playing or watching football, and would hate to see the club close. I know from friends and neighbours that the youth activities provided by the club give local young people some much-needed positive outlets and role models.

The club is a true community club though, and their activities go way beyond football. That is why I am so supportive of this licence application, which will strengthen the overall viability of the club thus allowing longer term planning of activities, and also allow a still wider range of community activities to take place on the site. There are almost no facilities in the immediate area around the club, with the nearest being around Raynes Park station and centre or at the other end of Grand Drive. This will be an extremely welcome local facility.

I am aware that there has been local discussion largely in anticipation of public nuisance resulting from the licence application, but I feel this is unlikely. I think the demographic the club appeals to is not likely to cause nuisance, and have not seen public nuisance result from similar licences elsewhere (e.g. Woody's bar). I am reassured by the arrangements that the applicants have put in place that this will not be a problem. In view of the large certain benefits and limited possible harms from this application, I hope it will be approved.

Kind Regards

Jane Scarlett

From: Margaret Sheffield
Sent: 12 May 2021 14:57
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for Late Night Alcohol
Licence Ref WK/202103135

Sent from my iPad. From Mrs Margaret Sheffield, . Reason for objection The Prevention of crime and disorder / Many times over the years the clubhouse have been broken into causing burglar alarm to ring for many hours causing annoyance and disturbance to local Residents. Public Safety/ Traffic entering and leaving the venue both onto Grand drive and Bushey road will cause traffic jams, noise, fumes and disturbance for local inhabitants. Prevention of Public nuisance/ Obvious disturbance of wildlife especially with lights and loud noise at night 24/7. Larger footfall over Cannon Hill Common. Local households will lose peace and quiet of being in their gardens and undisturbed sleep. Bringing many people to football ground increases burglary Prevention of children from harm/ Local children will have sleep disturbed by late night noise and added traffic fumes which have been proven to damage children's lungs.



London Borough of Merton,
Members of the Licensing Committee,
Crown House,
London Road,
Morden. SM4 5DX

18th May 2021

Dear Members of the Licensing Committee,

OBJECTION TO THE LICENSE APPLICATION OF RAYNES PARK VALE FOOTBALL CLUB

I strongly oppose the Raynes Park Vale license application. This is a quiet residential area where I have lived for 51 years with many properties with gardens, skirting the area.

If you grant the license, it would involve a large increase in footfall, and the sale of alcohol for long hours, I believe, would inevitably result in disorder. If allowed, it would become a "pub". The license would mean that the gates at the entrance in Grand Drive would be open much longer hours, allowing cars into this area until late at night, increasing the risk of crimes being committed.

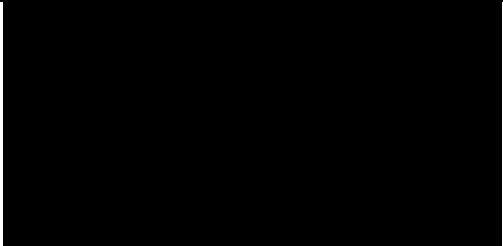
Amplified music would stop me entertaining my family and friends on summer evenings in my back garden. Prince George's Playing Fields are primarily for sports, the Lycee School have their sports ground bordering the Raynes Park Vale F.C., facilities, coach loads of children are brought to this area each day for sport, I believe that the Lycee might have serious concerns about the football club selling alcohol so close to the children.

I believe that the quietness of the area will be impacted by extra traffic, excess noise and litter, which will completely spoil the environment. Families with young children will definitely be disturbed by the noise, and what could result in unruly and anti-social behaviour.

If you wish to contact me I am available on:-



Regards,



MRS A. SHEPPARD

From: Georgina Shield <
Sent: 26 May 2021 10:06
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale FC licence approval. application reference WK/202103135

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you in favour of the proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale Football Club. I was really excited to read about this application especially in the light of Covid and many local businesses' sadly closing.

I have been a local resident of this area for close to 15 years and live at.

I am also the founding lead for the Cannon Hill neighbourhood on the social media app Nextdoor and the Raynes Park Vale Football Club falls under my Nextdoor Neighbourhood. This application helps to bring our local community together.

On the Nextdoor app, there are more posts **in support of this application** than there are posts that are not in support.

I believe this will be a great addition to the area and would support Merton approving this licence application.

The reasons I believe the proposed plans support the Four Licensing objectives as follows:

The prevention of crime and disorder: In modern times, we don't normally get to know our neighbours. Since the coffee shop at the football club has been open, I have met more locals in the last year than I have in the last 15 years of being a resident. We now have the beginnings of a real sense of community. This license would help to firm that up and bring more local people together which will help to build stronger neighbourly relationships, which in turn, would enable us to form an unofficial neighbourhood watch. We could then be in a position to identify and report potential crimes but also work together to create a safer area by looking out for each other. Especially with the increase in crime in the area and dog thefts. Ted was stolen on the common and more people to the area would hopefully deter dog thieves.

Public safety:

Prior to the addition of the coffee shop and tidying up of the area, this was a secluded area, only used by members of the football club and not the neighbourhood. It was an area which many didn't feel safe walking through especially at night not to mention even in daylight! I can now walk a full loop around the common and feel safer. It was a flytipping zone and attracted drug users. I used to see mini gas canisters lying around in the area as well as smell marijuana. As the area is now attracting more walkers, this is no longer the case and by having the licence, you will encourage more people to use the area particularly at night; therefore making it more safe to visit. Additional lightning would increase safety and would be no different to living near street lights or having your neighbour opposite's lights on all night (I have this!)

The prevention of public nuisance:

The use of the parking facilities is no more than the current use for football matches, the antique fair or car boot sale. Visitors to the bar would most likely walk there. In fact, the increase in people visiting the area, will prevent unwanted behaviour of a small minority visiting the area. Already the coffee shop has proved this to be the case. By having a venue that is open in the evenings, this would become safer even at night and less likely to attract undesirable characters.

The protection of children from harm:

Safety measures would be in place as for all licenced facilities. This would only be used by children who are supervised by their parents. The Messines Playing Field is infrequently used by a very small number of children who are supervised by teachers during the day. It is very unlikely that they would witness adults drinking as they use it during the day during school/working hours..

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton for and on behalf of RPVFC and all users currently and respectfully using the RPVFC, Coffee Shop and Artisan market.

Thank you

Kind regards

Georgina Shield

**REPRESENTATION OF LICENCING APPLICATION
RAYNES PARK VALE FOOTBALL CLUB**

I wish to add comments in view of rejecting the licensing application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club.

The following reasons/concerns are:

- The extra traffic flow this will result in, on an already very busy road in a residential area. This will also increase the traffic flow on weekends and evenings. The fact that I am a resident of Grand Drive and that my property is only yards from the Grand Drive entrance to the football club, coupled with the fact that my rear garden also backs onto the parking area of the fields adjacent to the football club, I would find this extremely intimidating and would feel very vulnerable. This must be taken into account especially considering what other activities also happen here, i.e. football, car boot sales, funfairs, antique fairs and a pop up coffee shop. I have included a photo showing what can be seen from my rear garden during one such antique fair.
- I would have serious concerns about any noise pollution that may arise from this application especially during evening/night hours. These would include noise from loud music, vehicles and any potential anti-social behaviour that could arise from this application.
- General security, currently the gates from the Grand Drive entrance to the football club are locked at night, this application would mean that they would have to stay open. We have already had issues with travellers trying to access the fields. This poses a severe security risk. Also consider that my and my neighbour's rear gardens back onto the fields gives us serious misgivings about this proposal.

I have no objections to new business in the area, however it should be located at a more suitable area where the neighbourhood is not going to suffer from it e.g. anti-social behaviour, noise and traffic for example.

Also having once been a licensee myself, I know how easy it was to acquire a licence extension, would any guarantee be made to the fact that no extensions would be granted, if this proposal is successful?



(View from the rear of my garden onto the field during the antique fair)

Regards

Ms Barbara Sinclair



Licensing Section,
London Borough of Merton,
14th Floor, Civic Centre,
London Road, Morden,
SM4 5DX

24/05/2021

Dear Merton Licensing Section,

RE: Representation/comments regarding Raynes Park Vale Football Club application for a Premises Licence.

I understand it is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make false statements when submitting a representation. I hope my comments fit within the required parameters.

Before I detail my objections to the proposed application, I would like to start by saying that coffee stall holders have been very friendly and welcoming. Their current offering has been largely positive as it is run during sociable hours (8am-6pm) and on a small level (no music/large activities).

However, I strongly oppose the Premises Licence application as the activities will be out of character for the Neighbourhood and unsuitable for a location/site that is surrounded by residential properties, Cannon Hill Common (a Site of Borough Importance - Grade 1 for Nature Conservation and a Local Nature Reserve) and Prince George's Playing fields (which I believe carries the Metropolitan Open Land and Site of Importance for nature conservation status).

I am concerned the proposed hours of operation and activities will have a negative effect on the local environment and quality of life for residents and wildlife. I believe the nature of the operations are likely to negatively affect the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the protection of children from harm and the prevention of public nuisance. Reasons detailed below:

Public Safety:

- **Unsafe departure from premises including:** [Pictures attached]
 - No clearly defined paths/walkways for pedestrians to exit from the premises.
 - No street lighting leading away from the premises. Around 300 meters to walk to Grand Drive (nearest street) with no street lighting to lead the way (unless pitch floodlights are being used).
 - No clearly defined areas for parking or 'drop-off' areas or signs leading customers the correct route away from the club house.
 - Although the club has made a big effort to clear the site, there is still rubble etc.. that needs to be cleared to ensure site is free of trip hazards.
- **Emergency Response Vehicle Access:** [Picture attached]
 - I believe (from observation) that the main gates into Prince Georges Playing Fields are locked in the evening. I think this is the main access point for all vehicles entering the site, including emergency response vehicles. Clarity is needed with regards if this access point will be managed differently if the premises licence is granted to enable vehicle access during all times of the proposed hours of operation. Understanding why these gates are currently locked will also need to be explored, I assume it is to decrease antisocial behaviour including vehicle access to the fields.
- **Potential for increased light pollution, noise pollution and vehicle fumes:**

- Currently, no lights or loud noise is transmitted from the clubhouse. Meaning any increase in activity will have a negative impact on this very peaceful site. As described on Merton Council Website “Cannon Hill Common is a great place for walking, recreational fishing and angling, dog walking, bird watching and simply getting away from urban life and enjoying a small piece of countryside in the city.” As the club is within close distance of the common, allowing for late-night music/entertainment would threaten this peacefulness of this small piece of countryside.
- Anticipated increase in noise and light will negatively impact the lives of the residents and local wildlife.
- **Anticipated increase in volume of waste produced:** [Picture attached]
 - Current storage area for waste is not protected against animal scavenging or of robust construction (no ease of maintenance, not lighted). This would need to be addressed if activities were to increase as presumably the amount of waste would increase.
 - Concern over litter increasing in cannon hill common and surrounding streets.

The Prevention of Public Nuisances:

- Anticipated increase in public nuisances including noise, litter, general disturbances of the area, anti-social behaviour and light pollution.
- Anticipated reduction of the living and working amenity and environment for residents.
- The application for live music, recorded music and films (indoor & outdoor) from 11am-till late means continual noise in a currently peaceful site. Add to this noise from customers, cars etc would destroy the tranquillity of the area and would be harmful to the health of local residents as is likely to disturb sleep etc.

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder:

- Due to the location of the club house, I am concerned about the ability to contain the spread of any disorder or anti-social behaviour within the immediate premises. Spill over to the surrounding fields and Cannon Hill Common seems likely.

The Protection of Children from Harm:

- School Playing fields directly opposite the club house, with a mesh/open fence dividing the areas. Therefore, any consumption and selling of alcohol outside (and associated behaviours) would be in close proximity and visible to children. Especially as the request for selling alcohol is from 10am in the morning.

To conclude, I do not think the licence application (including proposed hours of operation and activities) should be granted as I believe it would have a negative effect on the local area and residents.

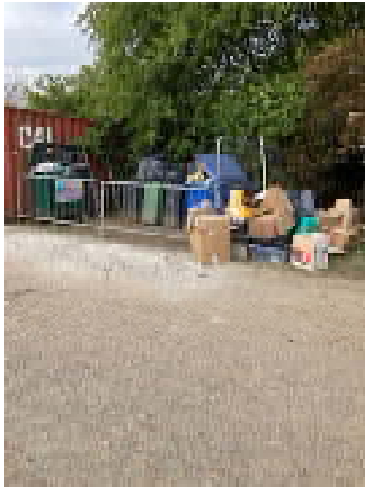
Kind regards,

Miss Holly Smith



Pictures to support with comments:

Current Waste & Recycling Storage Facilities (taken 26th April 2021):



Main road and walk-way to the club (from Grand Drive Road), showing no lighting or clear pathways or parking. (taken 26th April 2021)





London Borough of Merton,
Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee,
Crown House,
London Road,
Morden, SM4 5DX

19th May 2021

Dear Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee,

OBJECTION TO THE LICENSE APPLICATION OF RAYNES PARK VALE FOOTBALL CLUB- REF: WK/2021033135

I wish to object to the granting of the Raynes Park Vale Football Club a license to sell alcohol to the general public, unlike the present license that currently only allows the sale of alcohol to members of the club and their guests. It is my belief that the football club applicant intends to operate the clubhouse more as a pub rather than a local bar or a community facility, especially as the applicant is a former publican.

I also believe that if this license is granted, Merton Council would be breaching my rights under Article 8 of the Human Rights Act (2000) that is, my right to family life, as well as the right of those residents of Berrylands and those in the surrounding area. I believe that Merton Council would be in breach of our right to family life by failing to respect Article 8. If my claim is ignored by Merton Council I would consider taking a complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman.

I purchased my property in Berrylands many years ago, to enjoy my house and the surrounding area with the aim of raising a family without interference, I also believe that the noise pollution from the Clubhouse Bar will include amplified music, loud entertainment and the mess, the rubbish, plus the whole issue of increased car parking would interfere with my right to a family life, including my house and garden. Should you grant this license, all of these matters would make our lives unbearable and make it impossible for us to enjoy our family home and lives. We also have the right to enjoy these legal rights without being unreasonably disturbed, it would also make it impossible to sell my property in the future, should I want to escape from what threatens to be excessively noisy activities that will be going on at Raynes Park Vale Football Club bar/public house and car park. Who would buy our properties with a noisy bar/pub just a few metres away operating all day and every night of the week. I love living in Merton in general and Berrylands in particular and I do not wish for you to take that right away from me.

I am seriously concerned regarding the sale of alcohol that would be on sale in the bar, I understand that the plan is to open the clubhouse for most of the day and the possible impact on the health and worry of the residents and their families in Berrylands and surrounding area, increasing the risk of anti-social behaviour, for example, it may include customers leaving pubs in Raynes Park at 11 pm and making their way to the Raynes Park



Vale Football Club bar as their proposed license does not end until 12.00 on some nights, especially since the Edward Rayne Public House and at least 2 other pubs in Raynes Park are now closed. It could possibly increase the risk to women in the public area in Raynes Park and surrounding area, putting many women in danger in their own homes, where they are supposed to be safe. Research shows that domestic violence increases when alcohol is consumed. I am sure that the Committee is aware that statistically at least 2 women are murdered weekly in the UK usually by husbands, ex-husbands, partners or ex-partners. Publicity by Conservative candidate Shaun Bailey for the recent mayoral election in London claimed that robbery is up 86%, knife crime is up 60%, sexual assault on the tube is up 43% and the murder rate is at an 11 year high, (The Facts About Crime in London since 2016 see copy of leaflet attached for information), I do not believe that Merton Council is anxious to see a large increase in crime in our borough.

Anti-social behaviour is a serious issue in all areas of London, sadly including Merton, and the residents of Berrylands and surrounding area are extremely worried that should this license be granted that bad behaviour by mainly drunken young men, could result in the residents being reluctant to leave their homes because they fear of being assaulted or abused. Women out alone as well as families have the right to use the public highways and not be in a state of fear for themselves or their families safety, either during the day or at night. The sale of alcohol locally would I believe, increase that risk.

My concern is also regarding granting the license to Raynes Park Vale Football Club is that the owners are hoping to make a profit, which may seem reasonable when the clubhouse is selling alcohol during the summer months and there is plenty of footfall around but what about when the seasons change, what happens in the winter months when there are fewer people around? I worry that Raynes Park Vale Football Club will want to install perhaps neon signs to indicate that they are open for the sale of alcohol, a sign that could be seen from the busy Bushey Road that leads traffic onto the extremely busy A3. I am aware that Merton Council, like the residents of Berrylands and its surrounding area is also very concerned regarding the sale of alcohol, its consumption, and the possibility could be an increase in criminality, when the local council and central government is trying very hard to reduce crime. An increase in the sale of alcohol could damage the council's plans to reduce such potential crime and disorder.

Another concern for me is what if the Raynes Park Vale Football Club bar is trading very successfully, what if the owners decide to sell on their license to another company, perhaps a large brewery who in turn would almost certainly wish to expand to increase their profits. Many of us in Berrylands and surrounding area remember when David Lloyd set up his first gym in Bushey Road many years ago, it was so successful it was sold on and is now owned by a large corporation, this could happen to the bar/pub proposed by Raynes Park Vale Football Club, history could be repeated. It would be our worst nightmare.

I very strongly resent the fact I only found out about the Planning Application on Saturday 17th April 2021 when a scruffy piece of paper was left on the floor of my porch (see copy attached for information), the paperwork dated 10th April 2021, giving me only 18 days to collect and collate my response. Again I may consider making a complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman regarding this matter. Many of us in Berrylands and the surrounding area have little experience of objecting to council's planning applications, I

(3)

believe that Merton Council should be more proactive to local residents regarding such applications as Raynes Park Vale Football Club, as there are serious implications for many of us living in the area. It says little for Merton Council's commitment to local democracy and community involvement. Few of us spend our time reading Merton Council's committee list on our computers looking for planning and license applications, most of us have more important things going on in our lives.

In the very short time the coffee stall has been present on the field behind our houses, just about 5 or 6 months in all, some residents have noticed an increase in the brown rats population in their back garden, it is a risk I am not prepared to take and have stopped feeding the birds and wildlife as a result. I believe this is because of customers consuming food and then failing to use the waste bins for the leftovers. Should this license be granted we are extremely concerned that there could be more brown rats in our area, some families have small children who play in their back garden that overlooks the playing fields and they are extremely worried that the number of rats in the area would increase due to more food being sold in the bar. Residents need to be assured that Merton Council will protect us all but especially children who are more at risk from these rodents.

Myself, and I believe many of the residents in Berrylands and surrounding area have lived in their properties very happily for many years and can remember a previous attempt some years ago to run a bar from the Raynes Park Vale Football Club club clubhouse, the noise and litter at the weekends especially when weddings were in season was overwhelming, many of us remember that we could not sit in our back garden on a beautiful summer evening or have our friends and families visit us in our gardens due to the noise of amplified music, then again much later at night when the guests were leaving the bar, our sleep was disturbed as a result of them being inconsiderate, selfish and thoughtless, with noisily driving their cars away, I dread that all of this will be repeated all over again if Merton Council grants Raynes Park Vale Football Club this license. Neither myself, or I believe my neighbours, do not want to experience it again.

I understand that there are plans to place beehives on the roof of Raynes Park Vale Football Club building, I believe that there is a local trader selling honey near the coffee stall run by the applicant, but it seems rather inappropriate to me that those of us who live within a few metres of the planned beehives, there could be a swarms of bees buzzing around our homes and gardens especially during the summer months when myself and other families, especially those with children, are likely to be outside, enjoying our gardens with our families and friends, in Berrylands we have at least 4 young mothers who I am aware of have small babies and I worry the bees could put them at risk.

Perhaps it would be more appropriate if the seller of the honey should make a separate application to the council so that the implications of the beehives being placed on the roof of Raynes Park Vale Football Club property could be considered, this would allow locals residents like myself to object if they felt it would make them unsafe in their own properties.

I believe that the trader who has applied for this change of license wishes to run the Raynes Park Vale Football Club as a public house although that is not what is application states, not as a club or a community facility, he plans many other money-making activities such as outside public film shows I believe that this activity could be a public safety issue, too many

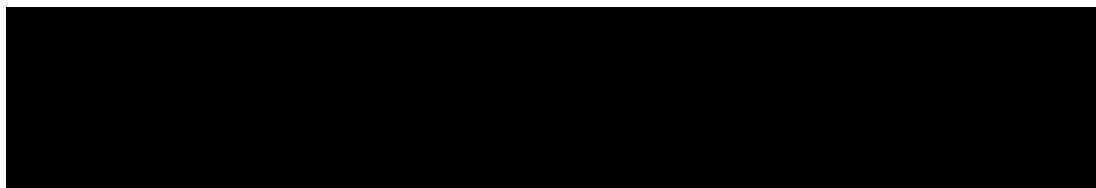


people not enough safety procedures. Myself and many of my neighbours can remember many years ago that there was a dangerous fire at the rear to 27 Berrylands, which was very close to the circus tent and animals that was using the field just behind the property for public performances during its annual visit to Raynes Park, creating what was a very dangerous situation where someone sadly lost their life, I do not think that any of us would want anything like that to happen ever again, health and safety far is too important

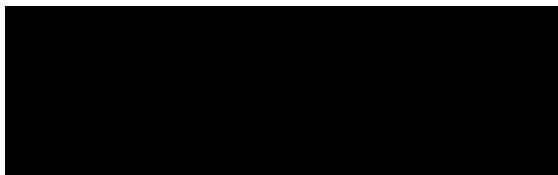
I am sure like me, Merton Council is very concerned about the protection of children and keep them from harm, if so I feel that the council should be concerned like most people that the clubhouse that proposes to sell alcohol from 10 am until 10 pm Monday to Thursday and Sunday plus 10 am 12 midnight on Friday and Saturday, is less than 10 metres from a field where young men from the Lycee School enjoy sports training every weekday. The sale of alcohol could be a great temptation to young men after training. I am sure most people would consider that to be most inappropriate. Including the Lycee School itself.

Would the members of the committee know if anyone from Health and Safety has visited Raynes Park Vale F.C. clubhouse to ensure that the premises are even suitable and appropriate for what the applicant intends for its use? Has it for example, disabled access suitable for wheelchair users as required under the Equalities Act or that fire regulations are being followed comprehensively. Also I would be interested to know from Merton Council councillors whether this area of Raynes Park is classified as Metropolitan Open Land and if it is, does it mean that development is not allowed? If it is, this application should be refused.

I would be grateful if you could inform me when the application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club license application will be considered, also if it is a public meeting as I plan to attend. My details are as follows:



Regards,



RITA STALLARD (Mrs)

**LICENSING ACT 2003
PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR**

PREMISES LICENCE

(Please state type of application - Premises Licence / Night Refreshment Licence / Club Premises Certificate)

APPLICATION HAS TODAY BEEN MADE TO THE COUNCIL FOR THE ABOVE LICENCE BY:

Name of Applicant or Club: RAYNES PARK VALE FOOTBALL CLUB

Address of Premises: GRAND DRIVE RAYNES PARK

GREATER LONDON SW20 9DZ

(If no postal address, state a description of the premises which enables the location and extent of the premises to be identified)

Date: 10.4.21.

(This notice must be displayed the day after the application was submitted to the Council for a period of 28 consecutive days on or near the premises in a position where it can easily be read by the public.)

For: SALE OF ALCOHOL, PROVISION OF

REGULATED ENTERTAINMENT, PROVISION OF

LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT.

(Please state type of licensable activity / use - e.g. the sale by retail of alcohol / supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to a member of the club / provision of regulated entertainment / provision of late night refreshment).

Proposed hours of Operation:

MON - THURS 10AM - 11PM.

FRI - SAT 10AM - MIDNIGHT SUN 10AM - 10.30PM.

REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING WITHIN 28 DAYS OF THE ABOVE DATE TO:

Licensing Section, London Borough of Merton, 14th Floor, Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX or by email to licensing@merton.gov.uk

Persons wishing to inspect the licensing register may do so, by appointment, at the above address between the hours of 09:00 - 17:00 Monday to Thursday and 09:00 - 16:30 Friday.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application which carries a maximum fine of £5000.

From: Marina Szanto
Sent: 10 May 2021 10:07
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Application By Rayners Park Vale Football Club

To Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee of Merton Council I wish to voice my objection to the the proposal by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for a Late Night Alcohol License.

To grant this application would be to totally ignore the massive blight and misery such a proposal would bring to local residents such as myself.

I have lived in Cannon Close since 1974 and cannot begin to imagine how my life and mental health and that of my neighbours would be damaged on a daily basis both night and day if you grant this application.

In reality this proposal would turn a members only football club into an outdoor entertainment venue open to the public. The increase in noise and inadequate car parking would ensue.

Surely this goes way beyond what a socially responsible football club should be focused on? What possible benefit would such a proposal have to our local community and the provision for local youth in the locality?? Should this not be the priority for a local football club?? As well as the prime commitment for Merton Council.

It is also worth noting that the Grand Drive GP Surgery is very close by on the corner of Grand Drive and Cannon Close.

No thought would seem to have been given to as to how this application would cause untold PUBLIC NUISANCE with unacceptable noise pollution from the outdoor entertainment potentially every day into late at night with alcohol induced anti-social behaviour.

I urge you to take into consideration just how close to residential housing this venue is !!

The quality of my life and that of my neighbours would be severely blighted.

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM HARM must also be considered.

School coaches bring pupils to the playing fields almost daily.

Local children playing at other times especially at weekends often without adult supervision would increase the risk of them being exposed to strangers who are not there to enjoy the parkland but able to purchase alcohol being sold from 11 am every day.

This Sub-Committee has a duty to consider if this application is counter to THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER.

All the possible risks to increased criminality and disorder would be greatly increased by this application. There is no adequate lighting. In the winter months children would be passing this playing field path to go to and from school in the dark. Cannon Hill Common is only a few minutes walk away. The risk to PUBLIC SAFETY would be so much greater.

This application is of no benefit to the local community and would have a totally detrimental outcome to us all. This would be to support turning a local football club into an entertainment venue in the heart of a residential housing area.

I respectfully urge the members of the Licensing Sub-Committee of Merton Council to REJECT the above Licensing Application

From Marina Szanto

From:

Sent: 08 May 2021 12:36

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Subject: Objection to: Raynes Park Vale Football Club - New Premises Licence WK/202103135

Raynes Park Vale Football Club

Prince George's Playing Fields

Grand Drive

Raynes Park

SW20 9NB

For your background information:-

- My location in Parkway is four houses away from Heath Drive and the Cannon Hill Common access to the allotments.

Having now been able to see this revised application we wish to raise the following objections to the licence being sought:-

1. Exhibition of a Film: Indoors & Outdoors: Covering Five days and 57 hours each week

Realistically this activity would be primarily located outside on the Raynes Park Vale Football Club field and not within their current building as it appears to be predominately contain football changing rooms and showers.

If this viewing does take place indoors their current building does not appear to be up to the required fire prevention standards for public audiences.

Any such entertainment performed during the 'Proposed hours of Operation' would certainly be a considerable aggravation by sound and lighting not only for the houses backing onto the RPFVFC field in Berrylands, Cannon Drive, Grand Drive, Heath Drive but also

to ourselves in Parkway due to our proximity to this location and the openness of the site.

[Reasons for objection: Public Safety and Prevention of Public Nuisance.]

2. Live Music: Indoors & Outdoors: Covering Seven days and 83 hours each week

Again I foresee that credibly this activity would predominantly occur outside on the RPVFC field and not within their existing building due to lack of space. If this music does take place indoors their current building does not appear to be up to the required fire prevention standards for public audiences.

Any such entertainment performed during the times requested would certainly again be a real nuisance by sound and vision not only for the local houses aforementioned due to their nearness to this site but also the landscape of the site.

[Reasons for objection: Public Safety and Prevention of Public Nuisance.]

3. Recorded Music: Indoors & Outdoors: Covering Seven days and 84 hours each week

Yet again I fully expect this activity would chiefly happen outside on the RPVFC field and not within their current building because of space restrictions. If this music does take place indoors their current building does not appear to be up to the required fire prevention standards for public audiences.

Any such entertainment performed during the these periods would certainly be a significant disturbance both visually and audibly not only for the houses aforementioned due to their proximity to this area but also the site topography.

[Reasons for objection: Public Safety and Prevention of Public Nuisance.]

4. Late Night Refreshment: Indoors: Covering Two days and 2 hours each week

This application will present issues for all residents because of the sights and sounds generated not only when people are present at RPVFC but also when they are arriving and leaving.

The public will be able to purchase alcoholic drinks and this could enable further underage drinking and antisocial behaviour. What is to prevent taking drinks outside these premises onto RPVFC field, Cannon Hill Common or the Playing Fields?

[Reasons for objection: Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and Protection of children from harm.]

5. Supply of Alcohol: On & Off the Premises: Covering Seven days and 92.5 hours each week

Once again this will undoubtedly cause problems in the surrounding area because of an ongoing level of disturbance every day for up to 13 hours not only when people are there but also when they are commuting by vehicle or foot.

Permitting this could allow the public to purchase alcohol for consumption in or outside the premises and could easily facilitate further underage drinking and problematic behaviour.

[FYI: On Sunday 25th April 2021 at around 15:00 I walked over to the RPVFC clubhouse and there were a number of mainly food outlets set up in the car parking area and one booth for Wimbledon Brewery was already selling alcohol to the public.]

[Reasons for objection: Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and Protection of children from harm.]

6. Premises Opening Hour: Whole Premises: Covering Seven days and 112 hours each week

Vehicular access to this location is via a single track from Grand Drive and is used by anyone accessing the RPVFC, RPVFC field and the Prince George's & Messines Playing Fields. At present the metal gates off Grand Drive are padlocked when the football pitches

are not in use preventing vehicles accessing these playing fields and potential fly-tippers. Any pedestrians have to walk on the track itself and across RPVFC car park where there is currently little lighting.

Furthermore this narrow single track would have to be used by all emergency services needing to attend the site.

There is only a limited area to park outside the RPVFC building so when this space is full vehicles will of necessity end up parking on the RPVFC field or even in Heath Drive or Parkway and walking through the unofficial route between Common Hill Common and the RPVFC field.

Ever since we moved here this has been an exclusively residential area backing onto the PGPF where the main activities have been predominately seasonal football matches.

The only existing commercial enterprises that we are aware of are RPVFC Football Matches and use of part of the PGPF adjoining Bushey Road (A298) for an occasional Sunday car boot sales between 07:00 and 14:30.

This flood of opportunist applications would not be out of place for a Public House in a town centre of the borough but it is totally discordant with the tenet of this suburban area.

[Reasons for objection: Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and Protection of children from harm.]

Mr J Taylor

From: Clare Townsend
Sent: 23 May 2021 20:14
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Raynes Park Vale FC alcohol license. WK202103135 OBJECTION

From: Clare & John Townsend
[REDACTED]

We live near the site and, until the pandemic, were used to a degree of noise during football matches which was acceptable in the context of a time-limited activity of a sporting nature. There were some problems at the end of private functions as people left, but once again these difficulties could be anticipated and tolerated.

However, the current application, if granted, will alter the whole picture.

We wish to object to the above application on the following grounds:

1. The prevention of crime and disorder

Public drinking in a park close to residential housing will turn the area into an open "pub" with the attendant problems which arise (in the case of a small minority of drinkers) around public houses.

2. Public Safety

The Grand Drive entrance and the Heath Drive entrance are situated in dark areas. Many people have to walk to bus stops or home alone after shift work e.g. at the local care homes, as cleaners, as hospitality workers etc., and would feel vulnerable.

3. The prevention of public nuisance

As previously mentioned, the noise which accompanies normal sporting activities and infrequent social functions cannot be compared to the noise which would be engendered by open-air films, music and outdoor drinking.

4. The protection of children from harm

You would not encourage children to go and play unsupervised around or in a pub. Families take children into secured pub gardens and can supervise them. However, at present children walk and play freely in the various parts of Prince George's Playing Fields.

In addition to the schooltime sports activities on the adjacent Messines fenced off site, youngsters and young teens also participate in Saturday football matches alongside the RPVFC site where there are only a few adults responsible for their safety.

There are also many informal groups of young people whose parents allow them to play unsupervised ball games. Others are encouraged to cycle to and from school along the dedicated path in what is seen as a safe area.

If the current application were to be successful, young children would encounter people drinking alcohol in a previously “dry” environment. As already stated, it is a minority of people who behave poorly whilst drinking - but even the richest football clubs find it hard to control this minority. There are many people who do not wish children to be in drinking environments so avoid pub areas.

Granting this application would give additional social/drinking opportunities to one group of people but would reduce greatly the current opportunities for quiet recreation and safe play for others who use the Prince George’s site. It would also affect powerfully the opportunities for those in the vicinity of the site to enjoy their own back gardens - not once or twice a year as happens with park concerts but without any limitations!

Kind regards
Clare and John Townsend

From: Louise Tritsarolis [REDACTED]

Sent: 19 May 2021 13:39

To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>

Subject: REF: WK/202103135

To whom it may concern,

The coffee van and market have been a great addition to the local area during lockdown, this has been a valued meeting point that dog walkers, neighbours and friends could enjoy. My husband and I are very pleased to hear that they are building a seating area in order to provide us with somewhere to enjoy a couple of quiet drinks and background music.

We hope that this request will be approved.

Kind Regards,

Louise & Dinos Tritsarolis

From: Anne Tucker <
Sent: 26 May 2021 23:03
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: WK/202103135

Dear Merton,

I write in favour of the newly proposed licence for Raynes Park Vale football club.

I have lived in the area for over 25 years and have always felt that it lacked a community feel. Over lockdown we have used the common far more often and have enjoyed seeing other families increase their visits . The coffee wagon on the Raynes Park Vale site has given a lovely community destination to local residents and somewhere for people to meet up and enjoy the area.

If we wish to go out in the evening we walk to Wimbledon and it would be so good to have an evening destination closer to our home. We used to go to Woody's in New Malden which started up in a very similar way and is now a popular and thriving business and local amenity.

The Four licensing objectives are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

The reasons I believe the proposed plans support The Four licensing objectives as follows:

- The prevention of crime and disorder:
Local people who care about their area will be able to meet up and get to know others. A sense of community attracts new people , increases a neighbourhoods desirability and encourages people to look out for

each other. Loneliness and isolation attracts crime because criminals pick on people who have nobody to call on.

- Public safety:

The potential licensee appears a very sensible person, the area has been massively improved and maintained, removing dangerous rubbish and all the way through COVID19 they have been very diligent about public safety. The club would have rules and I am sure these would be followed too.

- The prevention of public nuisance:

The site has been kept clean and tidy and the owners have engaged positively with local people. The area around has been improved and people encouraged to follow rules. I am sure this would be continued and the owners would not want to be a disruption or have a negative impact on the area

- The protection of children from harm:

Safety measures would be in place as for all licences facilities and rules and regs would cover safety aspects. This would only be used by children who are supervised by responsible persons.

I do hope the licence is granted by Merton and a chance given to this new business. It would be great to see the neighbourhood getting together and boosting morale with this new venture.

Best wishes

Anne Tucker

From: Jemma <
Sent: 10 May 2021 15:15
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: Councillor Eloise Bailey <Eloise.Bailey@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Raynes Park Football Club license

With address

In addition I've seen the request for outdoors live music/films: this is not acceptable as the noise will be far too loud as it's too close to residents houses and will cause loss of sleep and peace and quiet that we enjoy in this area. There would be no escape from noise and disruption for me in my OWN HOME. I actually find it completely irrational for this to be a legitimate request, there seems to be zero consideration on the impact on the residents. These types of events are usually in wide open spaces with no residential properties within a significant distance.

Kind regards
Jemma Watson

On 6 May 2021, at 09:30, Jemma [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear sirs,

I live behind the football club in Berrylands and my bedroom and office/spare room overlook the grounds & club and am very concerned about the disruption all day into late night drinking will cause. This is a residential area in a quiet green location which is why I moved here. Serving alcohol every evening on week days [until 11pm](#) and Saturday to midnight and all day Sunday to 10.30pm is excessive and will be guaranteed to cause noise disruption late at night. I object to the request as I'm sure most residents will.

It will attract more patrons who are not footballers leading to increased noise and drunk and disorderly behaviour including property damage, public urination, drink driving to name a few. Alcohol associated violence is a certainty. I would be very frightened to walk around my local roads and the common/woods with so many inebriated men in the area. The same goes for events/weddings.

I believe this has already been the case a few years ago. The litter and rubbish noise and public urination was a nightmare for the residents. There is a pub in town they can go to within a 10 min walk.

I work long stressful hours and value a good nights sleep, which will now likely be disturbed on a regular/nightly basis.

I've actually already started to lose sleep over this now with the looming worry of a riotous football pub at the end of the garden every night. And losing the ability to safely enjoy the green spaces around the area.

Regards
Jemma Watson

From: Adam Wedge
Sent: 07 May 2021 13:00
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: Ref: Application Reference WK/2021033135 (Pages 11&12) Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for late night alcohol licence.

Dear Sir,

I would like to object to the Application by Raynes Park Vale Football Club for late night alcohol licence.

Reasons:

- 1) Destroy Tranquillity of St Gerorge's Playing Fields. More cars, fumes, people drinking to much inside and outside.
- 2) Detrimentially effect wildlife due to noise and pollution.
- 3) Severely impact the quality of life for those in the vicinity, large car park, more litter, more noise and disturbance from external residence.
- 4) Football club is more likely to foster an old fashioned drinking culture in a remote low level policed area. Could influence local crime and drugs to become more prevalent, much work has been done already to reduce crime and drugs in the area.
- 5) It would create a whole area of noise, litter and disturbances..
The area is already significantly effected by the Football, Antiques Fairs and Car Boot Sales. The weekend are already a complete hotbed of noise and disruption.
- 6) My Garage is now far more susceptible to flooding due to the Council putting in a walkway hardstanding which I assume is to also make way for this Alcohol Licence for the Football Club evening access.

Many Thanks,

Adam & Christina Wedge

From: Damian Wilson <
Sent: 25 May 2021 12:44
To: Licensing <Licensing@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Ref WK/202103135

Dear Sir/Madam

Ref: Licensing Application WK/202103135

I would like to submit my support for the above licensing application at Raynes Park Vale Football Club and take the opportunity to address the positive impact this would have on the neighbourhood.

Prevention of crime and disorder: As a daily dog walker I have seen the number of people using the Common and surrounding areas ebb and flow over the 13 years I have lived in the area and certainly feel that the increased use has contributed to reducing the amount of anti-social behaviour in the area. Encouraging more users to the area would help in making the most of this fantastic asset right on our doorsteps but also deter those who choose the relative seclusion of a deserted woodlands to engage anti-social behaviour.

Public safety: Specifically, as a dog walker, it is preferable to have more people in the area of the Raynes Park Vale FC and Common to avoid incidents of dog-napping such as the well-publicised assault which took place last as a busier park and surrounds would deter criminals from exploiting the scarcity of people to commit illegal acts.

The prevention of public nuisance: As mentioned above, more users in the area of the Common and the surrounding park, including the football club area, contribute greatly to reducing vandalism to fences, outbuildings and other property. As a hyper local club, those I have encountered at the RPVFC are largely families and dog walkers along with those who choose the spot as a weekend destination where great food and a nice market operate in a traffic free and friendly environment.

The protection of children from harm: While the sports fields are extremely busy over the weekend, during the week, the area around RPVFC is very quiet, save for walkers and people using it as a short cut through to Grand Drive or in the opposite direction. A active area around the clubhouse would signal a busy, alert community that can actually look out for the safety of children on their behalf. An empty, quiet cut-through would offer those who wish ill both a refuge and a gathering place that could be to the detriment of the local community.

In closing, I would like to mention that the area around the RPVFC has changed significantly in the time I have lived here, from an overgrown field of brambles to a popular destination that has engaged the local community by keeping the pathways in good order, planting trees and supporting the local market. The efforts of those submitting this application should be applauded as they seek to enhance a welcome community space.

Yours sincerely

Damian Wilson

Mr G Oduro & Ms Vilaplana



17 May 2021

Application Reference: WK/202103135

New Premises Licence: Raynes Park Vale Football Club (RPVFC) application for late night alcohol and entertainment licence application – Grand Drive Raynes Park SW20 9DZ

We write to object very strongly against the application submitted by RPVFC to extend the current terms of their licence.

We understand that RPVFC's have applied to be able to carry out, both indoors and outdoors, the following activities:

- Live & recorded music from 11.00 am to 23.00 pm (every day, with Sunday until 22.00)
- Exhibition of films: 11am-22.30pm Wednesday to Sunday
- Alcohol sales (on and off their premises) from 10.00 am to 23pm Monday to Thursday; but until midnight on Friday to Saturdays and until 22.30pm on Sundays
- The RPVFC premises will open from 8am until midnight Mondays to Thursdays, 30 minutes later on Fridays to Saturdays

This new application represents a substantial extension of the current terms of their licence. Currently, they are only able to sell alcohol and provide entertainment indoors to club members, with conditions to ensure that noise cannot disturb their neighbours.

Our property backs on to the fields and public path (Edwin's Walk) where the RPVFC's premises are located. Any increase in activity will have a direct impact upon us and our neighbours in Berrylands as well as neighbours in Heath Drive (the section ending at the Paddock allotment garden) and the wider vicinity.

The Club has already started some activity:

- selling light refreshments (e.g. teas, coffees, cakes) every day of the week
- building a decking area
- selling alcohol outdoors to member of the public at weekends
- hosting food stands at weekends

We appreciate that, in this hard times due to the Pandemic, RPVFC (as many other business, clubs or organisations) need to find alternative ways in which to raise money. But the proposed licence will have the following negative impacts:

Increase of public nuisance

- The type of activities planned by RPVFC will result in increased cars parking in the vicinity as there is no parking space at the Club. It is also unclear how RPVFC are planning to manage or mitigate this impact: would RPVFC plan to keep the gates of the Prince George's Playing Fields open for extended hours to allow cars access either from Bushy Road or Grand Drive allowing cars to park in the fields?

- Due to the pandemic, the two pubs in Raynes Park have now closed; and people might feel safer socialising outdoors particularly with summer coming. Any large gatherings will result in increased noise from the music/films and people. This will have a very detrimental impact on the families living in the properties adjacent to the Club. It is unclear what conditions RPVFC are planning to put in place to ensure that noise cannot disturb their neighbours.
- This is also luckily to result in increased litter; and the use of the fields (including our back fences) as places to relieve themselves (i.e. toilets). For example, just 3 weeks ago we had to complain to the Club's manager. The Club was re-turfing the football pitch but decided to deposit all the topsoil at the back of our property. Luckily, we noticed in time to stop them as their intention was to pile 30 tonnes of the topsoil at the back of our and our neighbour's gardens.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder/Public Safety

- The most worrying aspect is the risk to public safety. The Club premises are located off the main street, accessible only through public paths from Cannon Hill Common (through the Edwin's Walk), Prince George's Playing Fields and off Whatley Avenue. These public paths lack any proper public lighting. It would be extremely unsafe for any individual walking to/away from the Club at night – I'm sure nobody would encourage any person walking these paths at night, particularly women. It is unclear what measures are being proposed to mitigate any risk of assault to those living/approaching the premises at night. There could also be an increased risk of breaks into adjacent properties, such as ours, with gardens backing the Club.
- The Edwin's Walk is frequently used by people walking their dogs, joggers as well as families with young children going to Cannon Hill Common and the playground in Joseph Hood Recreation Grounds. While we all welcome some of the new activity, such as the sale of light refreshments and the weekend activities (8am to 17.00), the area where the Club is located is not well suited for large gathering and activities. The Club has already built a decking. Any additional activities is luckily to result in the Club putting in place more fixed outdoor furniture, infringing on the quality of the fields.
- These will also have a negative impact on the right of way of people using the Edwin's Walk public path. Volunteers in the community have been working to improve its looks and accessibility.

The protection of children

- It is important to note that the Club faces the Messines Playing Field. This field is used by a private school for their students outdoor sport activities. It will be interesting to know the outcome of the Club's or the Council's risk assessment of allowing pub's like activities directly opposite a school's field.
- The public paths leading to the Club are frequently used by young people cutting across to Grand Drive or Bushey Rd. My own son uses it when going to school (Rutlish School). We'll be concerned of his safety.

It is on the basis set out above that we strongly reject to the proposed license application.
Regards

Mr. G Oduro & Ms Vilaplana