



Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Team - Representation

Name	Sion Roberts
Job Title	Neighbourhood Compliance Officer
Department	Licensing and Out of Hours Compliance Team
Address	Level 1, Town Hall Extension, Manchester, M60 2LA
Email Address	sion.roberts@manchester.gov.uk
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Premise Details

Application Ref No	REF 286663/PW5
Name of Premises	Didsbury Sports Ground
Address	Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU

Representation

Outline your representation regarding the above application below. This representation should describe the likely effect of the grant of the licence/certificate on the licensing objectives and on the vicinity of the premises.

Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Team (LOOHT) as the responsible authority have assessed the likely impact of the grant of this application taking into account a number of factors, including the nature of the area in which the premises is located and the proximity to residential accommodation, the hours applied for, and any potential risk that the grant of this application could lead to issues of public nuisance.

Description of proposed variation as given by the applicant:

The proposed variation is to extend the current permissions for licensable activity, to allow for one annual outdoor public event to be held on the playing fields of Didsbury Sports Ground during Summer months.

We request that permission will cover the 1st band of attendances up to 4999 capacity.

Permission for the following licensable activities; - the sale or supply of alcohol - the provision of public entertainment

The current premises license allows for the above activities, within the clubhouse only.

We would request that those existing permissions are maintained; with the additional variation to approve sale of alcohol and provision of entertainment from 11:00 to 23:00 outdoors.

Alcohol is to be consumed on the premises only. Events are subject to provision of detailed Event Management Plans and ultimate sign-off by local authority departments and joint agencies via SAG meetings.

Organisers are committed to engaging local residents, neighbouring organisations and ensuring that events are professionally operated, safe and well-managed.

Proposed hours and licensable activities (timings for outdoor area are in addition to those already permitted indoors):

Provision of regulated entertainment (live music, recorded music) (to take place outdoors):

Current hours: Not applicable

Proposed hours: Mon 11am to 9pm, Fri to Sun 11am to 11pm

Within the grounds of the site, during Summer months (May, June, July, August). At weekends, or Bank Holiday Mondays/ Fridays. Or on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day until 01:00.

Provision of regulated entertainment (performances of dance) (to take place outdoors):

Current hours: Not applicable

Proposed hours: Mon 12 noon to 9pm, Fri to Sun 12 noon to 11pm

Within the grounds of the site, during Summer months (May, June, July, August). At weekends, or Bank Holiday Mondays/ Fridays. Or on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day until 01:00.

Supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises only:

Current hours: Not applicable

Proposed hours: Mon 12 noon to 9pm, Fri to Sun 12 noon to 11pm

During Summer months (May, June, July, August). At weekends, or Bank Holiday Mondays/ Fridays. Or on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day until 01:00.

Opening hours:

Current hours: Not applicable

Proposed hours: Mon 11am to 9pm, Fri to Sun 11am to 11pm

Opening hours to start from 11am during the proposed variation periods, in order to allow ingress to site. No alcohol to be sold before 12pm - curfew 30 mins before closing time. Seasonal variation requested for summer months (May, June, July, August). 9pm closing time (latest) on Sundays when there is no Bank Holiday on the following day. 9pm closing time (latest) on Bank Holiday Mondays.

On New Year's Eve from 11:00 and New Year's Day until 01:00.

A site visit was conducted by Licensing and Out of Hours (LOOH) with the agents to discuss the variation. The current licence holder and designated premises supervisor were not present.

It was established that the variation application is for a one-day only craft beer style festival, to be held on playing fields adjacent/nearby to the existing licensed clubhouse.

Whilst it was also established during the site visit, that the agent has significant experience of several similar type festivals in the Cheshire area and has provided conditions in order to promote the licensing

objectives, it was felt that without more detailed site-specific information, it would be extremely difficult for LOOH to fully assess the impact of this application in relation to public nuisance. Especially that of the festival attendees arriving and leaving the event via any proposed routes and the knock-on effect on the wider locality.

This would be in relation to not only people noise but potential litter issues, which would be a lot more difficult to control once away from the proposed varied licensed area.

These concerns have also been reflected in the number of local residents and elected members representations.

During the visit, the wording of the additional variations was also queried, as it was unclear regarding the amending of the clubhouses regulated entertainment to be changed to external, as worded this would also include the later seasonal timings up until 01.00am in some instances.

LOOH have received several complaints of noise last year and in previous years regarding loud music and people noise from the clubhouse itself and it is felt that any variation to include regulated entertainment to outside with no additional controls (As any Event Management Plan EMP, would only apply the one-day festival) would likely lead to noise nuisance to be experienced by nearby residents.

Section 7 of Manchester City Council's Statement of Licensing Policy sets out considerations that must be taken in to account when assessing the impact of a premises to local residents in relation to the potential for nuisance.

As such LOOHT recommends that the application, in its current format, is refused on the grounds of not upholding of the licensing objectives in relation to prevention of public nuisance.

Recommendation:

Refuse Application

Cllr1

From: Angela Moran <cllr.angela.moran@manchester.gov.uk>

Sent: 06 April 2023 13:22

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Premises Licence variation 286663/PW5: Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU, (Didsbury West ward)

Hi,

As a ward councillor for Northenden, I would like to share my concern about the below licence variation. In particular, I am concerned about access to the site, which seems to rely on Ford Lane, a very narrow and winding road. To have 5,000 people use this road as the main access point would cause a significant amount of pressure in terms of car and pedestrian traffic. I also have some concerns about the noise that may result through the variation on site, which would again cause disruption to those living in nearby houses.

In addition to registering the above concerns, please could you confirm, if residents in the area to be impacted have been/or will be notified about the variation?

Kind regards,

Cllr. Angela Moran

Labour Member for Northenden, Benchill & Northern Moor

Email: cllr.angela.moran@manchester.gov.uk

Tel: 07970 436935

Cllr2

From: Debbie Hilal <cllr.debbie.hilal@manchester.gov.uk>

Sent: 21 April 2023 08:52

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Premises Licence Variation 286663/PW5 Didsbury Sports Ground Ford Lane

Hi

Having carefully considered the above application I am writing to inform you of my objection to the above application:

Ford Lane has only a one way access therefore it is not suitable for so many vehicles entering and leaving the ground

Traffic mitigation issues

Overspill parking on surrounding roads

Noise issues with up to 5,000 people even if the maximum number of people do not attend the event I envisage major problems for local residents with noise and other associated problems with such a large number of people

The Sports Ground is not a suitable location for such a large event

Best wishes

Councillor Debbie Hilal

Labour Member for Didsbury West Ward

Manchester City Council, Town Hall Extension, Albert Square, Manchester, M60
2LA (Sat Nav M2 5DB)

Phone: 0161 234 3235 (Internal 801 33235) Mobile: 07961 291 694 Fax: 0161
274 7001

Email: cllr.debbie.hilal@manchester.gov.uk

Social: @DebbieHilal

Cllr3

From: Andrew Simcock <cllr.andrew.simcock@manchester.gov.uk>
Sent: 21 April 2023 12:17
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Premises Licence variation 286663/PW5: Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU, (Didsbury West ward)

Thank you for your e mail.

Please do count my e mail as a representation.

The grounds for my objection at this stage are questions I have regarding the security of the site, the lack of car parking and access generally for a crowd of up to 4,999 people.

I have had a brief exchange of e mails with the applicant but don't intend to engage with them in a more detailed manner.

Andrew

Andrew Simcock
Labour Member representing Didsbury East
Home phone: 0161 445 5832
Mobile: 07710 844352
E mail: cllr.andrew.simcock@manchester.gov.uk
Twitter: andrew4didsbury

From: Andrew Simcock <cllr.andrew.simcock@manchester.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 April 2023 10:38
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Premises Licence variation 286663/PW5: Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU, (Didsbury West ward)

Thank you for the notification of the above premises licence variation. I represent the adjoining ward Didsbury East.

Please can I seek clarity on the following matters:

The list below itemises a number of the issues involved here.

Given that the site is open and accessible from a number of points and there is currently little to stop anyone gaining access to the location how exactly will the organisers be able to carry out these functions?

What are the parking arrangements for this estimated crowd of 4,999 people?

I am not objecting per se to this application but it seems to be that there are a number of practical issues to be resolved.

Effective gate bag search, detection, amnesty measures for ingress.

Perimeter monitoring by roving security details.
Dot plan for security details on-site, effective communications between EMT.
Egress plans supported by re-deployment of management personnel and team leaders. Ask Angela processes in place for female guest safeguarding.
Steward supported egress plan, deployment of welfare facilities at gate for use on exit.
Cleansing strategy for cleaning of site and surrounding areas.
Deployment of waste bins at the gate, for use on exit.
Traffic Management Plan and physical measures deployed where appropriate.
Resident letter drop with direct dedicated on-site contact for noise complaints, to address issues as they arise during delivery.
Sufficient site and street lighting for egress period after sunset.
Safeguarding Policy in place, with co-ordination between the EMT and suppliers such as security and stewarding teams, medical teams.
Lost child/vulnerable person strategy in place as reactive measures.
Challenge 25 on all bars, and at the gate. ID check for 18+.
Underage children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
DBS checks on all staff expected to come into contact with unaccompanied children.

Thank you

Andrew

Andrew Simcock
Labour Member representing Didsbury East
Home phone: 0161 445 5832
Mobile: 07710 844352
E mail: cllr.andrew.simcock@manchester.gov.uk
Twitter: [andrew4didsbury](https://twitter.com/andrew4didsbury)

Cllr 4

From: John Leech <cllr.john.leech@manchester.gov.uk>

Sent: 28 April 2023 10:57

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Premises Licence variation 286663/PW5: Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU, (Didsbury West ward)

Dear Licensing

There is very little details about how the event would be managed, so it is very difficult to be certain that the license will promote the 4 licensing objectives. There is clearly scope for noise and disturbance with the potential for up to 4999 people, and I cannot see how they event organisers would be able to ensure that there were not more people accessing the event, and managing the potential for noise and disturbance.

Kind regards

John Leech

Res 1

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 25 April 2023 22:15
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: 286663/PW5 - Didsbury Sports Ground

Hi,

I would like to strongly object.

They have made no engagement with local residents about this application at all. I have been notified by the local councillors letter and that is the first I've heard of it. I walk by very regularly as I have a small child. I also have an allotment next to the sports ground.

As the [REDACTED], they have made no contact with us about gauging local opinion for this application.

This is a very residential area. As a parent with a small child and having multiple neighbours with small children and elderly people people allowing music outdoors along with alcohol consumption until 11pm is completely unacceptable.

The site already in the summer months plays loud music inside for events which creates a nuisance for local residents. Noise spreads around the local streets and people leaving the area aren't particularly quiet.

Allowing music and entertainment to take place outside would cause considerable nuisance if it was a regular occurrence until 11pm.

People under the influence of alcohol already do not respect local residents properties and noise levels when leaving the area.

There are often late night noise disturbances surrounding the sports ground, this would certainly increase if this was approved.

There would be an increase in traffic caused by taxis and other vehicles who never adhere to the 20mph speed limits. The old concrete road surfaces are already loud in the evening in the summer months.

This a quiet neighborhood and plans to hold large outdoor events up to 4999 people is a ridiculous proposal. I don't believe they have the skills or expertise to manage a large event of that many people. There are too many houses close by. I don't believe the sports ground would take ownership of rubbish and the effect it would have on people surrounding the area. There would be noise and rubbish everywhere which would spill out onto the local roads. There is not enough access for transport and taxis would block roads. Even during children's football matches on weekends cars spill out locally.

It is worth noting, they have installed poor fencing around their sports pitches which has been left in poor state or disrepair. They isn't a great deal of local engagement with poorly worded signage about trespassing installed around the pitches add odds with local residents

Another consideration is there are also a number of birds of prey who nest in trees close to the sports ground. This would have a negative effect on them and other local wildlife. We have seen bats on regular occasions late in the evening as well

Many thanks

██████████
██████████████████
██████████

Res 2

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2023 06:28
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Cc: John Leech <cllr.john.leech@manchester.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] >
Subject: 286663/PW5

I write further to the letter regarding Didsbury Sports Ground application to vary their premises licence, to allow for one annual outdoor public event to be held on their playing fields.

What about the effect this will have on our neighbourhood? We've experienced troubles in the past when they had fairground equipment and it attracted hundreds of people. The trouble to residents with people urinating in the gardens, throwing paper cups in the neighbourhood, loud shouting.

To think they want an event for up to 4999 people over 12 hours is asking for trouble. Ford Lane is a narrow road. We are already experiencing our driveways blocked - nobody does anything about it.

This 12 hour event is going to lead to crime and disorder in the area. What about emergency services, we've already experienced jobs setting a fire on the grassy knoll. Thankfully residents managed to put it out, then no emergency vehicle was needed - next time maybe they will be needed.

We experience public nuisance on a regular basis and that's just a few idiots. A one off event such as this will attract a huge amount of people. Not with fun in their minds, but to cause havoc.

There have been incidences at the sports ground in the past. Not necessarily buying alcohol there, but they will buy it and bring it in to the sports ground. We've seen the mess that was done during lockdown. The litter in the green spaces, the football/rugby/cricket pitches - barbecues were being lit - which caused damage to them.

The impact of this is going to be horrendous, dangerous to all people. Residents especially are going to be in fear with so many people around. What about our homes - possibly vandalism etc.

Just 2 nights ago, there were just a few adults kicking football around at the top of Deneford Road/Ford Lane. The noise they were making - no thought for children trying to sleep. Some of us still have original windows - I was frightened the ball may end up breaking our windows. Who ends up paying for the damage? Not Didsbury Sports Ground.

What services are the Council going to provide? There's going to be more litter etc. How are the emergency services going to get through?

Also, a lot of work goes in to 'Didsbury in Bloom' - plants/grass verges are going to be trampled on. We've already experienced people coming into this area during COVID time, the grass verges and green spaces were damaged due to people walking on them.

The clear-up from this event could take several months until the next annual event. This is not clear, it states, 'to allow for one annual outdoor public event'. Does this mean 1 day only, or does it mean an annual event over several consecutive days? Is it going to

be a concert?

It needs to be clearly stated what this public event is and how long it will last. Who is actually organising it? Is it outsiders hiring the grounds? What are the benefits to Didsbury Sports Ground? Do they hire it out for an enormous fee?

We are totally opposed to it.

████████████████████,

Residents.

Res 3

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 26 April 2023 18:22

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: 286663/PW5 Premises: Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am responding to the above application as a resident of [REDACTED].

I am concerned by the scale of the application - capacity upto 4999 people, which seem disproportionate to the facilities the venue offers in terms of parking.

There is limited parking in the adjacent area.

The adjacent area does not have capacity for the entrance or egress of such a volume of cars or people on foot. I am also concerned about the disturbance which such large numbers could cause late at night after the consumption of alcohol.

I hope you will take these points into account.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 4

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 26 April 2023 18:56

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: 286663/PW5 Didsbury Sports Ground

I have lived beside Didsbury Sports Ground for over 30 years. What was once a community club has descended into a money grabbing business. Loud music anti social behaviour littering and no parking. The new owner takes from the community and gives nothing back. There is no parking. There are no positives to this application apart from making a millionaire even richer.

After recent decisions in Didsbury i hope your planning department will consider residents

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Res 5

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 April 2023 22:08
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Cc: John Leech <cllr.john.leech@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Reference 286663/PWS - Didsbury Sports Ground

To Whom It May Concern,

We are residents at [REDACTED] and would like to oppose the application for Premises License Variation of Didsbury Sports Ground. We today received notification of the application for the first time via a letter from local councillors Richard Kilpatick and John Leech. This is the first we have heard of the application, there has been no engagement by the club ahead of receiving this notification. We have a young family and believe that this proposal creates nuisance to residents, disorder in the local areas, and risk of harm for children and the elderly in the immediate vicinity.

We strongly oppose the application based on the following rationale:

Crime Prevention and Disorder / Prevention of Public Nuisance

- The location is extremely close to quiet residential housing. Indeed it can only be accessed through the residential streets.
- The overspill and dispersal of people attending the sports club has created an increasing amount of crime in the surrounding streets - specifically people trying to enter parked vehicles, canvas properties by entering gardens and side entrances, and criminal damage to property and street signs. These have all been reported to the local council and police on an increasingly regular basis. It is inevitable that with the proposal this concern will continue to spiral (probably out of control).
- The summer months already bring an increase in disorder by people leaving the sports club for existing events in the late hours - throwing bottles into gardens, smashing bottles on the streets (see protection of children from harm below also), entering local properties on the street, urinating in the street and that's before even the behaviour and noise of people travelling down the street as they leave the area.
- The noise nuisance that already exists when the sports club run 'indoor' events is a problem given the number of young families living in the area. It is obvious that the 'indoor' events are not 'indoors' and so would have little trust that these events would run within the application guidelines (i.e. we have no doubt this would run beyond 11pm - which in itself causes issue for children trying to sleep from much earlier than this!)

Public Safety / The Protection of Children from Harm

- We have 2 young children, as many people in the area do. This is a family area - not an area set up to deal with large scale events. There is not the space to accommodate the vehicles that would be visiting as part of these events. On a Sunday morning the local streets cannot even cope with the traffic attending the rugby sessions, never mind events with 4999 people! Even on a Sunday morning this causes dangerous parking, as well as restricting the view at junctions. There are many times that we and others have been put at risk when trying to cross the road due to these events - it would only be a matter of time before a child (or elderly) was knocked down and seriously injured.
- In addition to the above we already have issues with coach buses parking for rugby events - this may well extend with the introduction of these events. These already cause issues parking on bends, again creating risk for other road users and pedestrians. This has also contributed to our road in particular (Fordbank Road) being in dire state of repair as the road is not designed for heavy load traffic. This will of course time cost the council additional monies which we will be lobbying for.

Res 6

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 26 April 2023 23:25

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: I am a resident of [REDACTED], Didsbury. I strongly object to the application to license large social events at the Rugby Club on the grounds that there are no car parking facilities to cope with the cars bringing 4,999 people to the site. The resid...

Aside from this there is the noise aspect, this is a very quiet estate with many elderly people living here, including myself [REDACTED]. Our roads would doubtless have noisy drunken revellers coursing through them following the end of such an event, possibly causing damage to our properties and cars.

Please rethink this crazy idea.

[REDACTED]

Res 7

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2023 06:28
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection to licence extension -Didsbury Sports Ground

Hello,

I live at [REDACTED], Manchester, England, M20 2TH. I'm writing to object to the extension on the licence to hold events for 4995 people for the following reasons;

- 1) Environmental- impact on wildlife and their habit
- 2) Very limited access and parking to the sports ground. It's impossible. You should walk down the streets on a Saturday afternoon to see the volume of traffic. There is zero capacity and limited access for that amount of people.
- 3) Noise pollution in a residential area
- 4) inappropriate behaviour- I've had to deal with many people who have been drunk, jumping on cars, vandalising. This will exacerbate the issue.

As a resident, I 100% object to this license extension.

Kindes regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 8

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2023 08:11
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: 286663/PWS

I write to object to the application for at Didsbury Sports Ground.

This organisation states that they "aim to be the beating heart of Didsbury" and write that they are committed to provide our current members, residents and the local community with an unparalleled experience..." At no point, however, have they consulted with residents about the current application which I would have thought was essential.

How will the event be "marshalled"? For 4999 people a high level of security would be required to ensure the health and safety of participants and residents.

How will people get to DSG? Presumably a high proportion will drive: currently there is only a small car park and there are already parking issues on certain days, particularly Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings where perhaps a couple of hundred people attend, far fewer than the almost five thousand in the proposal. Parking, including of coaches, is an issue for local residents given that the small car park cannot cope already and inevitably people park, sometimes unhelpfully, on the nearby streets.

Please note that in the past when there have been functions at DSG there has been unacceptable behaviour on the local streets which have required police engagement, eg people walking on people's cars, throwing rubbish in residents' gardens and even someone falling asleep in someone's garden! Are there any proposals to "marshal" the streets to ensure a safe and orderly exit from the event? I believe such issues have already been raised with the club and the city council over the past few years.

I am also concerned about noise levels and the effect that this will have on neighbours, particularly the young and the elderly.

Didsbury Sports Ground and the areas nearby are a haven for wildlife; I am most concerned about the impact of the application on the environment, both with regard to noise on the night itself but also from the inevitable litter including, potentially, broken glass, which also is a potential hazard for sports' participants and spectators at subsequent training sessions or fixtures.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 9

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2023 11:24
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Reference: 286663/PW5; Objection to the Proposed Variation of Didsbury Sports Ground License

Dear Licensing Department,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern and strong objection to the proposed variation of the license for Didsbury Sports Ground (DSG), as outlined in the application currently under consultation. As a resident of Ford Lane, a neighbourhood directly affected by the activities of DSG, I believe that the granting of this application would have severe negative consequences on our community and directly impact the promotion of the four licensing objectives.

Firstly, I would like to highlight the significant disruption and disturbance caused by the existing operations of DSG. Over the years, we have endured numerous instances of excessive noise pollution, with loud music playing until midnight. Despite my previous complaint to the city council, these disturbances have persisted, creating an unwelcoming and disruptive environment for the residents of Ford Lane, particularly young children who are trying to sleep. Furthermore, the high volume of departing vehicles between midnight and 2 am poses safety risks and further contributes to the noise pollution and potential crime and disorder in the area.

Additionally, the behaviour of some intoxicated young adults from DSG has been alarming and intimidating. They have been witnessed running on top of parked cars along Ford Lane, leaving bottles and glasses in front gardens, and engaging in other forms of anti-social behaviour. This behaviour not only endangers the safety of our neighbourhood but also undermines public safety and contributes to the creation of a public nuisance.

Furthermore, the limited access to Didsbury Sports Ground and the insufficient parking facilities exacerbate the problems faced by residents. On multiple occasions, buses transporting attendees to DSG have been unable to pass through Ford Lane due to parked cars, necessitating residents to move their vehicles, causing inconvenience and disruption to our daily lives. Granting the proposed variation and allowing an annual outdoor event with a capacity of up to 4999 people would exacerbate the already limited access and parking issues, leading to further chaos and disturbances in the area.

Of significant concern is the proposed destruction of the adjacent site of biological interest and local nature reserve. These ecological areas are invaluable assets to our community, providing habitat for wildlife and offering a serene environment for residents to enjoy. Allowing an event of this scale would not only damage this cherished natural space but also disregard the protection of the environment, which is crucial to the promotion of public safety and the prevention of public nuisance.

Moreover, the incidents involving unsupervised open fires on DSG during the heatwave last summer were extremely distressing. The smoke emitted from these fires severely affected visibility and breathing within our homes. It is particularly alarming that no personnel from Didsbury Sports Ground took responsibility for extinguishing the fires or addressing the concerns raised by the affected residents. This negligence on their part raises serious doubts about their ability to operate events safely and manage potential hazards.

Considering the aforementioned concerns, I strongly urge the Licensing Department to reject the proposed variation of the Didsbury Sports Ground license. Granting such a license

would only exacerbate the existing problems and compromise the well-being, safety, and quality of life for the residents of Ford Lane. Instead, I implore the council to prioritize the interests and concerns of the local community and ensure that the licensing objectives of crime and disorder prevention, public safety, prevention of public nuisance, and protection of children from harm are upheld.

Thank you for considering my objections. I trust that you will take appropriate action to protect the rights and well-being of the residents of Ford Lane.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

[Redacted address line 1]

[Redacted address line 2]

[Redacted address line 3]

[Redacted address line 4]

Res 10

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 27 April 2023 12:56
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Cc: John Leech <cllr.john.leech@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Didsbury Sports Ground application to vary license

Dear Sirs,

I write as a concerned resident of [REDACTED] Didsbury in respect of the recent application to extend the license of Didsbury Sports Ground.

The Fordbank estate is made up of entirely residential properties and has access roads consistent with this, the track leading down to the Sports club is not designed or maintained to cater for large amounts of traffic. The club has limited parking spaces, which will only result in traffic congestion and inconvenience to local residents as visitors will inevitably park outside our houses and cause late night disruption when they leave the club.

At present the club has supposed limitations on what they can do with regards consumption of alcohol outside and noise levels. The application attempts to expand on what they can do presumably with certain restrictions imposed. Bearing in mind during the summer months the club flagrantly flouted the current restrictions by playing loud music well past midnight with their doors open and allowing patrons to consume alcohol outside I am far from convinced that the club will respect any further limitations the council will impose.

Previous complaints have been made to the council as to the noise levels and I specifically refer to this household's complaint to the licensing out of hours department reference 741528.

Local residents have had to put up with anti social behaviour for a number of years now and any increase on the license will only increase that. The area has many houses were young children and elderly people live who will only suffer disruption and inconvenience.

The suggestion that this venue is suitable for numbers in their hundreds let alone several thousand is ludicrous, you will have large numbers of people with unlimited access to alcohol with little in the way of toilet facilities and close proximity to a river, I would suggest this is a recipe for disaster.

The main purpose of this club is to provide sporting facilities for the area not to provide a venue for large gatherings were alcohol is present to the detriment of people who live nearby.

Bearing in mind the little regard the club has for local residents I would have thought it more prudent to limit their license not extend it.

I am sure I will not be the only person raising objections to this application due to their concerns over the risk of anti-social behaviour, disruption and the nuisance this will cause.

Ultimately this is a residential area and Should be considered as such and the concerns of the residents have to be taken into account

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to donate me.

Yours faithfully

██████████

Res 11

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 28 April 2023 14:37
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Premises Licence Variation - 286663/PW5

Dear Sir/Madam

I write re the above application at Didsbury Sports Ground

This proposal involving such a large number of visitors / revellers in a densely residential area is fraught with challenges regarding the four licensing objectives I understand the Council have to meet.

The prevention of Crime & Disorder

How is such a large number of visitors expected to arrive? The Council must have some form of metric they can apply to how visitors will arrive at the sports ground - bus,car,tram,foot.

Those arriving by bus, tram and foot will crowd the pavements from Wilmslow Road and down all the smaller residential streets of Didsbury Village as they walk towards the Ground. How will such a large increase in pedestrian numbers be shepherded to the Sports Ground to avoid any disturbances ? The potential overcrowding of pavements with pedestrians spilling into the road is a threat to public order and indeed traffic

What percentage of visitors are expected to arrive by car? Where are these extra cars supposed to park in Didsbury in order to avoid blocking local roads and potentially causing threats to public order - and safety ?

What stewarding arrangements will be in place to ensure ease of ingress and egress of vehicles and pedestrians to the site - bearing in mind the main entrance is down a steep narrow hill. Especially egress when many visitors will have imbibed and with no pavement on Ford Lane near the Sports Ground - who is assuming responsibility for the safety of all pedestrians.

Public Safety

As mentioned above how is such a large number of people supposed to arrive and leave the area without overcrowding the pavements and spilling into the roads?

Those arriving by car will be arriving in an area where parking is already at a premium. How many car parking spaces are the Sports Ground proposing to lay on - and even if they arrange parking - the residential approach roads have residents cars parked on them - generally making travel down them difficult. With normal traffic single cars can allow each other to pass. With a large increase in the number of vehicles I would suggest that gridlock is likely and this will spill out onto Wilmslow Road affecting through traffic and more importantly one of Manchesters busiest bus routes. A mix of far larger numbers of pedestrians and more cars cannot make the area any safer than it already is. Far from it.

As you will know the River Mersey flows close by the Sports Ground. With a licence allowing access to alcohol all day the proximity of the river becomes a more significant hazard. I understand that the vast majority of people drink responsibly - it will only take a limited number drinking to excess to endanger their own lives and those of others. It will also only take one accident - or worse a tragedy - to call into question the judgement of those making

the decision to extend the licence.

= Prevention of Public Nuisance

Just how do the Council and organisers expect to prevent and manage Public Nuisance issues with up to nearly 5000 extra people in a relatively confined space and small narrow roads. Without significant extra policing how will public nuisance be prevented? What numbers of extra constables and / or stewards are the council proposing for this event and who will pay for the extra resource?

What noise limit (in dB) is being proposed ? What input will residents have to this.

Protection of Children from harm

What proposals for minors have the organisers made regarding this event ? Is there a minimum age ? What crowd control measures will be implemented to specifically protect children from pedestrian crowding next to roads, protection within the event to avoid any risk of crushing. Is the fence between the Sports Ground and the the river secure to ensure no adventurous youngsters can get through and access the embankment and river?

Yours Faithfully

██████████

Res 12

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 01 May 2023 20:43

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Notice of Application to vary a Premises Licence (ref 154908)

Hi

I am writing to object to the recent notice of application to vary a premises licence for Didsbury Sports Ground (ref 154908).

All nearby residents already experience late night noise and disruption from the club, as well as car parking issues and anti-social behaviour. I can only see this getting worse if this licence is approved. The club have made no effort to consult the residents and outline what their plans are. Local engagement with us continues to be very poor. I fear that if this is approved it will set a precedent and the issues that we already experience will get out of control.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Res 13

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 28 April 2023 16:04
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: Didsbury Sports Ground

Good afternoon

I wanted to give my thoughts on the proposed premises license variation for Didsbury Sports Ground

I have lived on [REDACTED] for over 20 years and have recently welcomed the change of ownership at DSG. I do however have my concerns about this proposal

- The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Unfortunately with the location of this area close to the river, with paths out of the area and open spaces, there has been a lot of crime in the area over the years. This has been acknowledged by police / PCSOs, counsellors etc. Evenings and days when events are happening is when more crime occurs with groups attracted to the events / music happening at DSG. This can be cars and damaged, vandalism, broken glass on roads, outbuildings broken into and general disorder from the groups who congregate in this area and are attracted by noise etc. Not all incidences are reported as it is felt that things are not followed through. This will lead to too many people in the area, overcrowding and a much higher chance of crime and disorder
 -
 - Public safety
 - Groups of youths and other adults can be threatening in this area. People in the area are wary of going out late at night and if events are happening late more people will be attracted
 -
 - The prevention of public nuisance
 - DSG is in a residential area. We already have lots of events there. This leads to a high volume of traffic on small roads not suitable for the amount of people attending. Noise from DSG already affects many many houses in the area. Doors at DSG are open and events held outside leading to music playing all day and being a nuisance. Watching tv at home, trying to sleep and hearing the music pounding through the walls from the events causes a public nuisance. This would increase with this application and affect many in the area. The area cannot cope with this amount of people. It says it finishes at 11.00pm, but people leaving the area take time and this has an impact on areas such as Ford Lane where people are kept awake by people walking / cars etc for a long time afterwards. There has to be consideration to the local residents in the area and noise is a major factor.
 -
 - The protection of children from harm
- The area has an issue with groups of youths attracted to the fields, away from sight and drinking and taking drugs in the vicinity of the area. More people will be attracted with events and this will increase.

There has to be consideration for the local residents of the area and I believe that granting this application is not in the best interest of the local residents and will have a detrimental impact on their livelihoods

Please can you confirm receipt of this email
Regards

[Redacted]

Res 14

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 28 April 2023 19:08
To: Sion Roberts <sion.roberts@manchester.gov.uk>
Cc: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>; John Leech <cllr.john.leech@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Didsbury Rugby Club

Dear Sion

I write further to your letter of 21 May 2022 (your Ref 741528) when you confirmed a full premises inspection would take place at Didsbury Rugby Club following my complaints about noise.

It has also been brought to my attention that the club have applied for an extension to their music/alcohol licence (reference 286663/PW5). They are seeking for outdoor drinking and music until 2300 to include live music. Alcohol sales to 0100 as well.

I am of course completely opposed to this application, as I am aware many of the local residents are.

Please can you share your own investigation/reports/complaints are shared with the licensing team as I am concerned that the existing licence provisions for the club are in my view too lenient so to extend these even further is a huge concern.

I have copied the licence team into the email, please treat this email as notice of my objection. I will endeavour to send to you a more detailed response to the application before 2 May. Can I check – are you not planning on writing to the residents at all?

I have copied John Leech, my local councillor so he is aware of the issue.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 15

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 29 April 2023 18:58
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Proposed event at Didsbury Sports Ground

Reference: 286663/PWS

I would like to protest most strongly about the proposed 'event' at Didsbury Sports Ground in the summer. I feel that it is a most inappropriate place to hold what appears to be a miniature pop music festival on the edge of a quiet and peaceful housing estate. I notice their cynical claim that it for the 'local community'. But what do they mean by local community?

As far as the four licensing objectives we have been given to consider are concerned, the first is that I am concerned about is the 'prevention of crime and disorder' because I have had reports from people who lived close to similar events elsewhere of drunken youths rampaging round the neighbourhood after such concerts, and we once experienced this ourselves after a party at the Sports Ground, with people running into the back gardens of houses screaming and jumping on cars. The allotments opposite were also broken into and some vandalism took place. Local community? I think not.

I don't think there is much to complain about concerning public safety, except that the narrow access to the Sports Ground is often the cause of traffic chaos, even on Sunday mornings during their rugby coaching sessions,.
Parking is always a bit of a nightmare at any time around these narrow roads.

Prevention of public nuisance: I'm not clear about the exact difference between 'crime and disorder' and 'public nuisance', but I can tell you that on occasions when there has been deafening pop music blasted from speakers down on the Sports Ground field it has been heard all the way up Fordbank Road, even with all windows and doors shut.

I don't think anyone on this estate will be looking forward to three days of deafening pop music. Does this amount to public nuisance? If not, perhaps the reports of the occasional drunk peeing in neighbours' gardens might do so.

As far as children are concerned (how old are children?) I can't see why they should be in any particular danger, apart from the traffic congestion

which must occur where Ford Lane meets Fordbank Road – unless of course any drug dealers turn up.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 16

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 30 April 2023 15:51

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Objection to application

REF: Didsbury Sports Ground

Application Type: Premises Licence variation

Reference: 286663/PW5

Premises: Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU

Applicant: Didsbury Sports Ground Limited

Hi

I live on [REDACTED] next to Didsbury Sports Ground and I object to the size and timing of these events.

When the premises hold some events, even inside ones we are quite badly affected.

- the noise of the music from the event can often be heard ALL DAY constantly, inside with our windows shut and goes on passed ours and our children's bedtimes. Often accompanied by large crowd noises

-increase of traffic up our road and people park up our road quite in considerably blocking entrances to our house

- people are often drunk wandering home after the event up our street being very loud late on

- we've recently had younger men drunk after events urinating on our front wall and throwing things to each other across the road at midnight - shouting and waking us up.

If it was smaller quantity, with stricter noise rules, and an earlier finish it might make it better. The ground does wonderful community events but this is too big.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Res 17

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 30 April 2023 16:17
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: 286663/PW5

Hi Manchester City Council

We are concern about the license application from Didsbury Sports Ground as this will impact us who are living nearby due to traffic and noise pollution. The event size is too big as there are no suitable car parking facilities.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Res 18

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 30 April 2023 16:31
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence application 286663/PW5 Didsbury Sports Ground

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to express my concern and objections regarding the above licence application for a one day gathering for upto 5,000 people.

As a resident of [REDACTED] I am acutely aware of the traffic and parking problems that current events already cause along the residential roads around the sports ground and they are for much smaller gatherings. With the amount of traffic an event for upto 5,000 would inevitably bring and the small access that exists to the club house, I do not believe emergency vehicles would be able to access the Sports Ground if needed.

Added to this the noise and public nuisance that such a large gathering would cause way beyond 11pm as people left the venue, I urge you to consider the local residents and safety implications of such an event and refuse the application.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Res 19

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 30 April 2023 16:51
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Didsbury sports ground

Hello

We live on [REDACTED] and if the application is successful for the sports ground, we as a family are concerned regarding the noise level, we hear the music now when it is played indoors and I don't think this will be acceptable for our neighbourhood. I'm also concerned regarding the parking of cars of the people attending the venue and the noise level as they leave after the events, the leaving of empty bottles on our garden walls, urinating on our property, the noise level from voices leaving. It's not what we want to be hearing and seeing from our home. We are against this application being successful.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 20

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 April 2023 17:08
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: 286663/PW5

Hi there,

With reference to the large event licensing for Didsbury Sports Ground. Although largely supportive of the activities of the business and really wishing them to succeed, it has brought quite several unintended consequences to the Fordbank Estate where I am a resident.

We've had incidents of anti-social behaviours and minor crimes committed in the area due to the Sports Ground being a draw for non-residents and youths into the area. This escalates during summer months, causing damage to cars and other property of residents in the area. Those that live closest to the Sports Ground particularly suffer with nuisance behaviour.

Largely my concerns are practical:

1. Car parking the area suffers since the changes in parking restrictions on Dene Road, spilling Didsbury visitors onto the other smaller streets of the Fordbank estate. Didsbury has become ever more popular in the last few years bringing in visitors all looking to park. Even a single night event could have cars left for a day or two by event goers. I'd suggest that a residents and visitors permit scheme is becoming a necessity.
2. Security of the wider estate – we have been a relatively unknown area until covid however that has increased and the crime levels also. We go through particular 'waves'. If an event was on, then a plan for ingress and egress of party goers in and out of the state, ensuring no damage to residents property would be incredibly important. If they spill out of an event straight into the estate unchecked, we can't be sure they leave the area onto transport or what anti-social behaviours will follow.
3. Security of the Didsbury Sports Ground itself – the site does not have an adequate perimeter fence and although the license is only to 4999 party goers, it would be very easy for un-ticketed event goers to join by jumping over the exiting walls or walking through hedges. It would be very unlikely without copious staff or improvements to the security of the site, they could contain any event. Which would undoubtedly cause further problems for the Fordbank residents. If the business intends to mitigate issues with security staff, this would conflict with my point above – the staff would be on the event and not lining the local streets preventing anti-social damage to residents property.
4. There have been known litter issues in the area since covid – overspilling bins, not enough bins and our streets have become much more dirty. There's not enough toilet facilities – residents have even had youths knocking on doors who had been drinking at the Sports Ground wanting to use the toilet! There would need to be resource to mitigate these issues and a plan from the organiser to provide private street cleaning of the Fordbank estate.
5. Noise pollution both from the event and those travelling to and from it.

I'd suggest the following provisions

1. Temporary (or permanent) residents parking scheme to prevent disruption to local residents and their visitors
2. Security or police to supervise the ingress and egress of revellers from event through the Estate and onto wider public transport with no loitering
3. Improved site fencing for the Sports Ground to prevent the event getting out of hand
4. Organisers contract private street cleaners post-event to clean up the local area
5. In conjunction with 2 and 3 being a good neighbour and ensuring no 'informal events' spring up after the main one, then claiming they had no responsibility

The application states the organisers are committed to engaging local residents and organisations – however, the license application is the first any of us have seen of this and could have largely gone un-noticed if it hadn't been picked up by a resident and the local councillors. It would suggest that the organisers do not act with the intent they communicate, so ensuring those provisions are met would be very important.

Kind regards,

■

Res 21

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 30 April 2023 18:13
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence Application 286663/PW5

I wish to raise a very strong opposition to the application by the Didsbury Sports Ground
Safety
We face many problems with parking in the surrounding area and holding an event with 5000 people will create chaos .We have raised the issue of parking to police and councillors on many occasions
Social Nuisance
We have for years had problems with young people causing noise and distress to residents when they are leaving the club after events. The event planned will lead to crime and disruption.We have seen evidence of drug use and crime by young people and we would want to reduce events not allow a festival
Regards [REDACTED] resident [REDACTED]

Res 22

From: webfeedback@manchester.gov.uk <webfeedback@manchester.gov.uk>

Sent: 30 April 2023 18:24

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Make representation to a licensing or gambling application

Question	Response
<i>First name:</i>	██████████
<i>Last name:</i>	██████████
<i>Building number or name:</i>	██
<i>Street:</i>	██████████████████
<i>Area:</i>	██████████
<i>Postcode:</i>	██████████
<i>Email :</i>	██
<i>Application reference number:</i>	286663/PW5
<i>Premises name (if known) and full address this representation relates to:</i>	Didsbury Sports Ground
<i>Which of the licensing objectives are relevant to your comments on this application: :</i>	Public safety
<i>Please state your comments on this application :</i>	I have several concerns but overriding all others is the fact that the access to the rugby club is down a narrow road which has high usage. it is not only the way to the rugby club but also used by walkers, dog walkers, cyclists, families, people with pushchairs, people going to their allotments opposite the rugby club. THERE IS NO FOOTPATH, so cars and pedestrians have to dodge each other. This happens on a normal day, so how anyone thinks it could be safe for several thousand people is

Question

Response

beyond me.

Res 23

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 30 April 2023 21:01
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence application. Ref: 286663/PWS. Didsbury sports ground

To those with the responsibility for reviewing the above license.

I wish to register my absolute opposition to the granting of this license. My reason for my opposition is as follows.

The Didsbury Sports ground is situated in the Fordbank residential estate of Didsbury, with a single road access and exit through the estate. It currently has parking facilities for approximately 50 cars.

The thought of allowing anything from hundreds/thousands of people accessing the site from 11.00am in the morning to 11.00pm at night with the introduction of alcohol, music and dancing is a recipe for an antisocial disaster.

There has been clear evidence over the last 2 years of increased antisocial behaviour, groups of partygoers in peoples garden, damage to cars with vandals running over the top of the car roofs. Some children have been awakened due to disturbances outside of their houses.

The safety of the many elderly residents on the estate cannot be guaranteed with this volume of people attending an event fuelled by alcohol.

I put it to you that none of your licensing objectives can be met safely considering the location of this venue. And I sincerely ask you to consider the consequences this will have on the neighbourhood and wider community.

The only people it will benefit are those that are using this venue as a money making opportunity under the disguise of providing activities in the community.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] resident.

Res 24

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 30 April 2023 21:23

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Ref: 286663/PW5 objection to Premises Licence variation for Didsbury Sports Grounds, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to express my objections to giving permission to Didsbury Sport Ground to run events for up to 4999 outside its premises over extended hours with the licence to sell alcohol.

The reasons for my objection are as follows

1. PAST: Over the last few years the residents of the residential area in the immediate proximity to the Didsbury Spots Gounds have experienced of numerous examples of unruly gatherings and acts of vandalism from visitors to the grounds. In spite of the fact that all of these gatherings took place in the Grounds recreational areas neither acknowledgement nor any actions were taken by the management of the club to address the issue. The residents had to involve local MP and police directly. This does not inspire any hope that in the future this will change and they will take a more responsible position with regards to the estate where they are based.

2. FUTURE: Didsbury Sport Grounds would like to bring up to 4999 people. This requires careful planning to avoid damage to existing infrastructure and disrupting life of the local residents even further.

2.1 Parking: As I have already mentioned the Grounds are located in the existing residential area. There are two single lanes that lead to the Grounds entrance, from Ford Lane and Stenner Lane, providing restricted access and very limited parking spaces. Neither of the access points nor Grounds themselves have anywhere near enough parking spaces to accommodate a vast number of visitors they are planning to attract;

2.2 Toilets: The Grounds do not have neither sufficient arrangements nor space for providing the required toilet facilities for up to 4999 people they are aiming at attracting. If such arrangements are not clearly planned and implemented this would lead to highly undesirable impact on the quality of life of local residents and River Mercy embankment.

2.3 Cleaning: The next big issue is the necessity of organised cleaning of the Grounds, adjacent residential areas and River Mercy embankment for the events of such scale.

2.4 Security: Policing of the such events should be considered as one of the main aspects of managing large scale events in the areas that have already had numerous incidents of unruly behaviour.

2.5 Noise pollution: The Didsbury Sport Grounds are located in the quiet residential area. Noise pollution will have a significant impact on life of local residents.

2.6 Reinforcement of closing hours: Reinforcement of closing hours is extremely important. How a small club plan to undertake such reinforcement? It did not work in the past and police had to be involved.

Undertaking all of the above is an extremely important part of adhering to the set conditions of the licence and preventing a detrimental impact on life of local residents and River Mercy embankment.

I would appreciate if I could be informed on the progress of this application.

Kind regards,

██████████

Res25 (Withdrawn)

Res 26 (In Support of application)

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 01 May 2023 10:05
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: 286663/PW5

To whom it may concern,
I (and my husband- cc'd) are supportive of the application. It helps keep DSG viable,
which is a fantastic asset for Didsbury residents.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 27

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 01 May 2023 10:36

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Extended licensing hours

This application would make a marked effect on neighbouring residential houses. It's noisy during the summer months without these extended hours. The cars park anywhere and because the surrounding roads are fairly narrow the cars park partly on the pavements hence causing an obstruction to not only pedestrians but prams etc. The noise is bad when people are coming away from the Sports Ground so I strongly object to the extended planning hours they are seeking.

Res 28

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 01 May 2023 12:32
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Reference: 286663/PW5

Hi,

I am writing regarding the license application Reference: 286663/PW5 for Didsbury Sports Ground.

I am a local resident and have major concerns regarding this application. This premise is situated at the back of a quiet residential area with very limited access. I cannot imagine how it can possibly accommodate traffic for a 5000-visitors event. Not to mention the impact to the entire local traffic network. Ford Lane is narrow and is already full of visitors parking due to its proximity to the village. Overspill parking will affect the whole surrounding area.

I also noticed the application is for outdoor entertainment including the sale of alcohol until 2300. This will no doubt generate excessive amount of noise for those who live nearby as well as anti-social behaviours. This is deeply concerning and I must object in the strongest terms.

I sincerely hope this application will not be granted.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Res 29

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 01 May 2023 13:20
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Didsbury sports ground m20

I am aware that Didsbury Sports Ground wants to apply for a licence to hold one day events in May June and July 2024 that may involve up to 5,000 people. Licence Application 286663/PW5.

I live at [REDACTED] Didsbury, which is between Didsbury Village and the Didsbury Sports Ground. I want to object to this licence being approved.

The area I live in is a quiet residential neighbourhood. There is not enough parking at the didsbury sports ground. If in the region of 5,000 people come to my neighbourhood there will be a problem with cars parking and blocking my Road. There is only one narrow Road that accesses this site, has any thought been given if emergency services need to get to the site?

I am also concerned that if this number of people come into my neighbourhood, they are staying until 11.00 pm at night, alcohol is available at the site. Then drunken people are going to cause upset and a nuisance to my family and my neighbours. Who is going to Police this?

As a resident of the area I object to Didsbury Sports Grounds Application and I ask you to reject it.

Regards [REDACTED]

Res 30

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 May 2023 13:49
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Application Licence 286663/PW5 - Didsbury Sports Ground

Dear Sirs

As a resident living at [REDACTED] Didsbury ,I strongly object to this application which will further impact on the local residents as there is insufficient parking to facilitate such an event.

Not only will the noise be detrimental but I am anxious about the control of such a number of people with access to alcohol.

The Sports Ground currently facilitate a number of corporate and private functions and have never taken a responsible role in controlling both the noise and behaviour. I have in the past had to go and see the Manager because whilst I am at the furthest point along Ford Lane (from the Sports Ground) have struggled to hear my TV such was the level. I notified the Manager who really didn't want to know who paid me lip service and said he would deal with it turning down the sound until I had left the ground then reverted to the former levels which are not acceptable.

After such events the road is usually left with litter and little chrome cylinders which I understand are laughing gas cylinders used for getting high!

I live directly opposite the green where youths meet in numbers and use it as a toilet as indeed was my neighbours garden and then given abuse.

We have on a number of occasions had to call the Police to move on the drunken abusive individuals(who are also reluctant to attend as they have insufficient numbers to control these crowds which congregate) this has happened so many times when the weather is better that one neighbour has just moved away as a direct result of this situation.

The Sports Ground Managers are not interested in any form of control other than commercial interest and have been a big disappointment to all and sundry who live in the immediate vicinity.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 31

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 01 May 2023 16:47
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Cc: John Leech <cllr.john.leech@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence application 286663/PW5 - Didsbury Sports Ground

I write further to the letter regarding Didsbury sportsground application to vary their premium license to allow for one annual outdoor public event to be held on their playing fields. What about the effect this will have on our neighbourhood locally with people, urinating in gardens, littering and antisocial behaviour plus blocking driveways. How will emergency services get through.

An event for up to 5000 people is asking for trouble. These people will be buying drinks and food in shops and littering everywhere with no regard for the mess they leave. we saw in lockdown green spaces were severely damaged by people using them for barbecues, leaving lit, fires and causing significant damage

I am deeply concerned about our home, which will be on the main thoroughfare to the venue and possible vandalism that may be caused. As an elderly person living on my own, this is already causing me stress and anxiety. I am also concerned that this event goes ahead it will open the doors for more frequent regular events at this venue

I am against this application

[REDACTED] Didsbury

Res 32

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 01 May 2023 18:37

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Planning application 286663/PW5

I wish to object to proposed event at Didsbury Sports Ground on
2 May 2023.

5000 people coming will create horrendous parking problems on the
Fordbank estate.

A live music event so close to this residential area is bound to be a further
nuisance.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 33

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 01 May 2023 18:53
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Didsbury sports ground application

Dear Sir/ madam ,

I'm writing to you regarding my deep concerns about the didsbury sports ground licence application 286663/PW5.

As a resident of Ford Lane I'm alarmed of this application. I believe the residential area will be harm if such event on this capacity takes place.

The sports ground has extended its services and programmes including big day events plus bars/ cafe / food already since lockdown which already impacts on us there are increasing footfall of people and cars , (especially cars) which bring disturbance , litter , erosion of grass verges while heaps of debris and quite frankly making the area a lot more shabby than what it was even from 2yrs ago and this simply is because of the mass of people.

So the new proposal of 5,000 is just simply unfair and wrong the noise , light pollution, litter debris is extremely concerning.

One example of we use to have a tawny owl up and down Ford Lane that I use to monitor and I can directly tell you it no longer is with us due to the extra disturbances from the sports ground events.

We still luckily have bats and woodpeckers but I'm a concerned of the natural environment and our residents welfare with this new proposals, so am completely against it .

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 34

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 01 May 2023 19:50

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Didsbury sports ground

Hi,

I'm against the festival application due to noise, times and parking issues.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Res 35

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 01 May 2023 20:58
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>;
the.mayor@greatermanchesterca.gov.uk <the.mayor@greatermanchesterca.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Licensing

Dear Sir / Madam

This is regards the application for 154908 Didsbury Sports ground, Ford lane, Didsbury, M20 2RU.

I oppose the this application for licensing due to the following :-

1. Loud music and noise created by the event.
2. Create of Anti social behaviour around the surrounding neighbourhood.
3. previous events have caused a large number of youths gathering on Ford lane / Fordbank and creating litter in people's gardens, and jumping on cars. All this has been mentioned to police to had to come out to sort out the situation. Police will have all the crime reference nos.
4. People have been found sleeping in people's front garden again reported to police. I have recording to prove this, 6am in the morning.
5. parking issues will be created as where will 4999 people park.

Finally this will create alot of nuisance and disturbance for a nice, friendly neighbourhood.

We do not want these problems on our doorstep.

I will oppose this to the highest level and I have cc. the labour councillors on this.

Please take this seriously as all the neighbours on [REDACTED] are complaining and not happy.

--

regards

[REDACTED]

Res 36 (In support of application)

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 01 May 2023 22:49
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: 286663/PW5

To Whom it may concern at the Licensing department.

I am also supportive of the views of [REDACTED] in that DSG should be allowed the special events licence on an annual basis.

Being a local resident I am acutely aware of the benefits to the community that DSG provides. It's desperately needed in the area and events such as this allow it to survive financially.

It's not too much to ask of the neighbourhood for this 'one off' event to take place on an annual basis. We cope with the Didsbury Festival spread over a weekend period without any major issues.

The DSG events pails into insignificance compared to the Didsbury festival in terms of numbers attending and is deserving of our community support.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

> On 1 May 2023, at 10:05, [REDACTED]:
>
> To whom it may concern,
> I (and my husband- cc'd) are supportive of the application. It helps keep DSG viable, which is a fantastic asset for Didsbury residents.
> [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Res 37

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 02 May 2023 10:29
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Ref: 286663/PW5

Hi,

I live on [REDACTED] and am shocked that such a huge gathering is being considered for Didsbury Sports Ground. Whilst smaller events work well (local residents accept that cars will be parked all over the estate at these times)- this is far too big. During lockdown, when there were gatherings on the field, there was a huge upsurge in anti social behaviour- noise, litter, drunken behaviour- this type of gathering would be a bigger version of this.

I am aware that the majority of the Ford Bank Estate feel similarly. However there has been an issue with the council letter coinciding with election leaflets and so many people have been unaware of it (as they put the letter straight into recycling).

Please take these comments into account.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

Res 38

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 02 May 2023 11:15
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: ref 286663/PW5

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object to this application from Didsbury Sports Ground for an event to accommodate up to allowing up to 4999 people to attend.

I am happy to see the ground used for sports (especially children) and occasional social events.

This application oversteps the mark and will cause serious noise, parking and traffic problems as well as intrusions into a residential area.

I am a local [REDACTED] resident whose house overlooks the ground. We have had previous problems with late night drunkenness and noise and can attest to previous events that have been noisy and intrusive.

I object most strongly to an event of this scale and would urge the committee to reject it.

With thanks

[REDACTED]

From: webfeedback@manchester.gov.uk <webfeedback@manchester.gov.uk>

Sent: 02 May 2023 12:05

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Make representation to a licensing or gambling application

Question	Response
<i>First name:</i>	██████████
<i>Last name:</i>	████████████████████
<i>Building number or name:</i>	
<i>Street:</i>	██████████
<i>Area:</i>	██████████
<i>Postcode:</i>	██████████
<i>Email :</i>	██
<i>Application reference number:</i>	286663/PW5
<i>Premises name (if known) and full address this representation relates to:</i>	Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Didsbury, M20
<i>Which of the licensing objectives are relevant to your comments on this application: :</i>	The prevention of crime and disorder
<i>Which of the licensing objectives are relevant to your comments on this application: :</i>	The prevention of public nuisance
<i>Please state your</i>	As residents living close to the sports ground and on

Question

comments on this application :

Response

the roads leading to it, we (people, cars and properties) have suffered several times in the past by vehicles and people making their way to events and drunken and rowdy behaviour from people returning from events at the sports ground late at night.

Vehicles have been damaged/vandalised, gardens used as toilets, rubbish and empty bottles thrown on the road and in gardens, eggs thrown at houses and pranks with doorbells have been a significant nuisance. It is more than enough to have to smell the weed being smoked by several people going to and returning from the sports ground at night. With an event of the magnitude proposed, it will be close to unthinkable what we will have to go through.

This is a very quiet residential area and access to the sports ground is mostly through a narrow lane (Ford Lane) where excessive parking and blocking of driveways (on surrounding roads too) results from events at the sports ground. It is fine for people to have a green space to play sport during the day but this has never been designed to be and is not an entertainment venue.

I am speaking on behalf of several neighbours and I urge you to reject this application.

Res 40

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 02 May 2023 22:43
To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>
Subject: Ref: 286663/PW5

Hi,

I am a resident on [REDACTED] and am concerned that such a huge gathering is being considered for Didsbury Sports Ground. The Sports Ground is located within a highly populated residential area and an event of the size mooted would clearly create problems. There has been absolutely no engagement from the club with the wider community to discuss their plans and I know a lot of people are worried as to the trouble this may bring. During lockdown, when there were gatherings on the field, there was a huge upsurge in anti social behaviour- noise, litter, drunken behaviour, including smashed wing mirrors and dents from people running over cars. There a lot of elderly residents in our neighbourhood and I think that an event of this size would be particularly distressing for them.

I am aware that there is a lot of concern about these proposals on the Ford Bank Estate. However there has been an issue with the council letter coinciding with election leaflets and so many people have been unaware of it (as they put the letter straight into recycling).

Please take these comments into account when considering this application.

All the best,

[REDACTED]

Res 41

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: 02 May 2023 23:15

To: Premises Licensing <Premises.Licensing@manchester.gov.uk>

Cc: Debbie Hilal <cllr.debbie.hilal@manchester.gov.uk>; John Leech <cllr.john.leech@manchester.gov.uk>; Greg Stanton <cllr.greg.stanton@manchester.gov.uk>

Subject: Reference: 286663/PW5 Didsbury Sports Ground Application for Premises Licence variation

RE: Didsbury Sports Ground

Application Type: Premises Licence variation

Reference: 286663/PW5

Premises: Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Manchester, M20 2RU

Applicant: Didsbury Sports Ground Limited

Dear Sir or Madam

as local residents to the Didsbury Sports Ground (DSG), we have serious concerns about the proposed change to the premises licence and the way it will affect us as local residents.

With regards to the following points:

1. The prevention of crime and disorder- a crowd as large as is being applied for is highly likely to spill out onto the surrounding roads and paths and we have concerns regarding how the crowds would arrive during the morning and early afternoon and disperse late at night, with a high likelihood of drunk and disorderly behaviour as people walk through our neighborhood, and concerns about damage to vehicles, front gardens and littering.
2. Public safety- We have concerns about the access road not being suitable to cope with large numbers of vehicles (eg taxis) and people arriving and leaving which will lead to people congregating in the roads of the neighbourhood. In addition, there isn't really room for two way traffic or for vehicles to turn round when they arrive at the ground. When rugby matches are happening on a weekend we have noticed that the attendees park without any regard for the residents and some drive at speed. In addition, they often park on the pavement, obliterating one side for pedestrians. This is a particular problem on Ford Lane where it approaches Dean Road, so you have to walk on the road. If there is a situation of large numbers of vehicles requiring 2 way traffic on Ford Lane, we have concerns about the safety of pedestrians walking to the village and Didsbury Park.
3. The prevention of public nuisance- We are concerned about noise from the event being heard in our garden and house and disturbing our peace at home. In terms of antisocial behaviour, especially considering the times applied for, which would allow for the crowds to have access to alcohol for more than 10 hours, we are worried as to the way the crowds would behave as they pass through our neighbourhood. We consider that 10.30 pm is too late for this sort of activity in a

residential area, especially as, at that time of year, the windows are open in our houses. In addition, the statement that the license would allow events to last until 1am on certain days is wholly inappropriate. As the events would take place outside the clubhouse, it would not be possible for organisers to confine the music to the DSG.

4. The protection of children from harm- Our children walk down to the park to meet their friends at weekends and we are concerned that crowds of this size would put them at risk, especially if they met a large group who had already been drinking, and I think this would be very intimidating for them. In addition our neighbourhood has many very young children walking, on scooters and bicycles and we believe an increase in traffic would put them at risk. Families also walk through our neighbourhood to visit the river and Fletcher Moss park and this is not the sort of area you expect to encounter such events.

Crowds of this size who have access to alcohol for such a long period of time tend to shout loudly and not consider if their language or subject is suitable for all listeners or intimidating for vulnerable people. As the parents of a [REDACTED] year old girl, we do not think that we should have to take extraordinary measures to protect her in our own house and garden or if she wishes to walk to a friend's house in a neighbouring street. In addition we have concerns of what she might see or hear from crowds who are disinhibited during and after attending such events.

We note that the organisers have stated that they are committed to engaging local residents, neighbouring organisations and ensuring that events are professionally operated, safe and well-managed however there is no mention of how the area will be cleaned up after the event and what measures are being taken to ensure local wildlife such as the bat boxes on Stenner Lane will not be unduly disturbed either by the noise or directly by members of the crowd. We feel it is important to share with you that we have not been informed by the organisers that they were making this application, and there is no evidence for us, as local residents, that any efforts have been made to engage us. Historically the rugby club did engage with the local neighbourhood and would inform us if there was going to be an event, but we have noticed that this has not happened for a substantial number of years, and can confirm that we have not been informed of any of the events that have been hosted there in the last 12 months.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]