

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Act 2003 Sub Committee held at the  
Town Hall, Peterborough on Friday 2 October 2009 at 9.30am

Members Present      Councillors Newton (Chairman), Peach and Saltmarsh

Officers Present      Darren Dolby                      Regulatory Officer, Licensing  
                                 Colin Miles                      Lawyer, Legal Advisor to the Committee  
                                 Gemma George                  Governance Officer, Clerk to the Committee

**Application for a New Club Premises Certificate – Netherton United Football Club Limited, The Grange Clubhouse, The Grange Playing Fields, Mayors Walk, Peterborough, PE3 6HH**

During his opening statement, the Chairman advised all present of the procedure to be followed.

There were no declarations of interest and no objections were made to any of the Members of the Sub Committee taking part in the Hearing. All parties confirmed that they had received copies of the report and procedure.

List of speakers:

**Applicants**

Mr Ron Seddon

Mrs Joyce Ann Seddon

Mr Margaret Bennett                  Witness for the applicants

**Interested Parties**

Mr James Pritchard                  Local resident

The Regulatory Officer informed the sub-committee that the application was for a new club premises certificate for Netherton United Football Club, The Grange Clubhouse, The Grange Playing Fields, Mayors Walk, Peterborough, PE3 6HH. The application was for:

- **Sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises**  
Sunday to Thursday    12.00 to 23.00  
Friday & Saturday      12.00 to 24.00  
Christmas Eve            11.00 to 24.00  
New Years Eve            11.00 to 02.00
  
- **Live Music, Recorded Music, Dancing, Provision of facilities for music & dancing. Anything of a similar description to music & dancing. All activities are indoors.**  
Sunday to Thursday    11.00 to 23.00  
Friday & Saturday      11.00 to 24.00  
Christmas Eve            11.00 to 24.00

New Years Eve 11.00 to 02.00

- **Plays (indoors)**

Sunday to Thursday 11.00 to 23.00

Friday & Saturday 11.00 to 24.00

- **Opening hours of premises**

Sunday to Thursday 09.00 to 23.00

Friday & Saturday 09.00 to 24.00

Christmas Eve 11.00 to 24.00

New Years Eve 11.00 to 02.00

The Sub Committee was advised that there had been no representations received from any responsible authorities. However there had been 7 representations received from interested parties against the application in respect of the four licensing objectives: Public Nuisance, Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and Protecting Children from Harm. There had also been 2 representations received from interested parties in support of the application.

Mr Ron Seddon, the applicant, addressed the Sub Committee and stated that there was an extremely responsible management team behind the running of the club. Mrs Joyce Seddon was the club secretary and was responsible for the youth section of the club and Mrs Margaret Bennet was the clubs Welfare Officer, responsible for checking birth certificates etc. There was also a management board consisting of 7 people.

The club had been providing football since 1991 and over time had built up a good reputation and had a number of talented players who participated in a well managed club. All of the staff were comprised of volunteers and the club had received the highest level of charter mark from the FA. Overall, the club was very family orientated and did a lot of work with local single parents. The proposal was for more of a continental style café bar rather than just a bar. There would be no beer or lager taps present. The club had undertaken formal consultations in 2003 with residents of Netherton and many private consultations with other local residents, particularly those residents of Ledbury Road. This had led to the removal of derelict property behind the club.

The applicants had been running Netherton Football Club for over 11 years and there had been few complaints during that time. The complaints that had been received had been dealt with in a responsible manner. The Sub Committee were further advised that the applicants believed that many of the objections raised to their submission of an application for a club premises certificate did not relate to the football club itself, more the surrounding area and issues such as parking.

Following questions from the interested parties and the Sub Committee, Mr Seddon advised the following points:

- There was a gravel car park available, which on match days could be very busy and there was a possibility of overspill onto the surrounding streets
- The car park was more than adequate for the club house on non match days
- The car park was accessed via Mayors Walk

Mr Pritchard, a local resident, addressed the Sub Committee and highlighted the main concerns raised by this application. These included noise, parking and litter.

Members were advised that the clubhouse was not situated well clear of houses, therefore noise on the field at night would radiate out to local residents. There had been numerous incidents of children playing on the field at night in the past therefore this was a major concern for local residents. The parking situation was not good enough and there were still many cars parking in Portman Close on a regular basis, even on non match days. Members

were further advised that litter was a big problem in the area, granted, it did not all come from the clubhouse, but maybe the strategic positioning of 2 or 3 litter bins on the field would help matters.

Mr Pritchard also suggested the possibility of having soft drinks nights instead of serving alcohol each night.

Following questions from the applicants and the Sub Committee, Mr Pritchard advised the following points:

- The car parking situation in Portman Close was extremely bad
- If the suggested application was for more of a continental style café outside, this would increase the noise levels considerably
- The traffic flow in the surrounding area was a problem, with parents dropping off and picking up their children from the club

The interested parties and the applicant were asked to sum up and there were no further comments made by either party.

The Sub Committee retired to consider the application.

#### **RESOLVED:**

The Sub Committee unanimously agreed to grant the new club premises certificate application, to be valid from 2 October 2009, in the same terms applied for, subject to:

- The current conditions as set out in paragraph 7 of the committee report

#### **CONDITIONS:**

The hours of operation under this licence shall be:

- **Sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises**  
Sunday to Thursday 12.00 to 23.00  
Friday & Saturday 12.00 to 24.00  
Christmas Eve 11.00 to 24.00  
New Years Eve 11.00 to 02.00
- **Live Music, Recorded Music, Dancing, Provision of facilities for music & dancing. Anything of a similar description to music & dancing. All activities are indoors.**  
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**Reasons for the decision:**

In view of the findings of fact, the sub-committee was satisfied on a balance of probability and considering all the circumstances, including the conditions imposed, that the requested variation would not create public nuisance, endanger public safety, expose children to harm or increase crime and disorder.

In coming to its decision, the sub-committee also had regard to Peterborough City Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the National Guidance, in particular, those sections highlighted at paragraphs 8.2 and 8.3 of the committee report.

9.30am to 10.40am  
Chairman